FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

30 JANUARY 1986

Israel

Two IDF soldiers were killed and two were wounded when their patrol was ambushed by an armed infiltrator in the Jordan Valley 29 January, Jerusalem radio reported. The infiltrator, a private in the Jordanian Army, was also killed in the clash, the radio noted. Commenting on the incident in remarks broadcast by the radio, the Israeli chief of staff dismissed reports that Israeli planes had struck targets in Lebanon in retaliation for the Jordan Valley incident, pointing out that the air raid occurred before the IDF patrol was ambushed. On Jordan's failure to prevent the infiltration, the IDF Central Command commander told the radio that it is too early to determine whether Jordan has changed its policy, and he opined that the Jordanians are continuing to try to prevent terrorist activity. *HA'ARETZ* subsequently disclosed that King Husayn expressed regret over the death of the IDF soldiers in a message to Israel via the U.S. Administration. Husayn reportedly promised that Jordan will continue working to prevent terrorist attacks from its territory and he said the 29 January attack was perpetrated by two defectors from the Jordanian Army. Jerusalem radio revealed that two defectors from the Jordanian Army were captured by the Israelis about 3 weeks ago.

In another security development, masked gunmen fired at passengers in a car in Jerusalem 30 January, killing one person and injuring several others, according to AFP. The news agency further reported that a caller claiming to represent the PLO's Force 17 claimed the organization was responsible for the attack in a phone call to a foreign news agency.

As for Israel's foreign policy, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir warned in a U.S. publication cited by Jerusalem radio that there has been a "dangerous erosion" in the United States' position because it has embraced the notion of an international conference. Prime Minister Peres, in remarks broadcast by the radio on his return from the FRG, stressed that the peace process is "very much alive."

Lebanon

A Damascus radio commentary viewed the 29 January Israeli air raid on Palestinian targets in Lebanon as an example of "state-sponsored terrorism" carried out with "U.S. support and backing." A PLO spokesman cited by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio noted that the raid coincided with attacks on the Shatila camp in Beirut by militias "suspected of belonging to the agent Amal Movement."

Libya

"War will definitely take place" if the United States conducts military maneuvers in the Gulf of Sidra, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi said in a 27 January interview broadcast by Tripoli television. Al-Qadhdhafi stated that the U.S. maneuvers being conducted outside Libyan territorial waters, which he said extend to 32 degrees 30 minutes north latitude, "do not now concern us." He added, however, that he will propose that Mediterranean countries ban future military maneuvers in their "economic zones," which he defined as the continental shelf. Meanwhile, JANA reported that "Zionist vessels and gunboats" are participating in the U.S. 6th Fleet's exercises off the Libyan coast.

Commenting on the explosion of the U.S. space shuttle *Challenger*, Tripoli television said that while U.S. officials called this a great tragedy, the "real disaster" occurs when shuttle missions involved in the "star wars" program "export the seeds of death to outer space."

PDRY

Fighting is continuing in Abyan Governorate between supporters and opponents of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, Muscat radio announced 30 January, adding that sources in Sanaa have said the opposition forces are facing strenuous resistance to their attempt to control the governorate. Nevertheless, Aden radio reported that YSP official Salih Munassar al-Siyali attended a mass rally in Abyan Governorate 27 January during which 'Ali Nasir and his "clique" were denounced.

Kuwait

In an analysis of the Soviet role in the PDRY crisis, Kuwait's *AL-QABAS mentioned "definite information" that Soviet military experts sided with the forces opposed to 'Ali Nasir Muhammad*, adding that over 100 Soviets were killed or injured in the fighting. *AL-QABAS* speculated that the Soviet Union may have backed the rebels because it had information that 'Ali Nasir was planning to restore the unity of the two Yemens and move away from the Soviet bloc.

Jordan-PLO

The *JORDAN TIMES* reported "no breakthrough" in the talks between King Husayn and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, which continued 29 January. Fatah official Hani al-Hasan noted that the PLO could not accept the U.S. offer of PLO participation in an international conference in return for acceptance of UN Resolutions 242 and 338 because this falls short of U.S. endorsement of Palestinian self-determination.

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Kabul Reports Clashes, Tension in Pakistan

GF291414 Kabul in English to South Asia 0900 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Reports reaching BAKHTAR say that the brave youths of Baluch have recently attacked the Pakistani militia security force in (Janaral) region, as result of which 61 hired officers and soldiers of the despotic regime of General Zia surrendered themselves to the brave Baluchis. In this confrontation, 19 Baluchis were martyred and 13 others were injured. Likewise, the brave and valorous Baluchis attacked with arms another militia security force causing six soldiers killed and two tanks to explode. Reports add that the situation is tense in Quetta, and every day demonstrations go on against the ruthless regime of Pakistan. Demonstrators invite the Baluchi and Pashtun people for unity and harmony and condemn the anti-Islamic actions of the Islamabad regime.

According to another report, the brave Baluchi people planted two mines in the office of the (?labor courts) of Pakistan near Quetta city which inflicted a lot of damages and casualties to the Pakistani aggressor forces. The report adds that the various Baluchi tribes, under the leadership of Malik 'Alijan, arrested and disarmed 100 counterrevolutionary elements in the units of Pakistani militiamen who wanted to go to the Khyber Agency through the Baluchi-inhabited area in Quetta and take part in the inhuman and subversive activities of the Pakistani regime against the brave people of the Afridi and Shenwari tribes of the Khyber Agency.

Similarly the Kaka people residing in Badni district expressed their decided support of the righteous struggle of the Baluchi and Pashtun people against the cruelties and crimes of Pakistan's despotic regime. For instance, a group of the Kaka tribes attacked the counterrevolutionary camp in Badni, as a result of which Mullah 'Abdul Hakim, the head of the counterrevolutionary camp, was annihilated together with eight counterrevolutionary elements. Likewise, in a clash which took place between the Kaka tribes and the Afghan counterrevolutionary elements in the Muslim Bagh District, 15 Afghan counterrevolutionaries were killed and 2 vehicles were destroyed. Fifty-two units of various types of arms were seized together with 2 units of (?Katyusha) and 25 units of antitank mines.

Another report says that a clash took place recently between the soldiers of the despotic regime of Pakistan and the brave people of the Afridi and Shenwari tribes in Khyber Agency which led to the killing of 150 Pakistani soldiers and the burning of 4 armored vehicles. The report says that as a result of this severe confrontation, the puppet army of General Zia's regime was forced to withdraw as a result of the heroic attacks made by the brave people of the Afridi and Shenwari tribes.

Clandestine Radio Reports USSR Airlifting Supplies

GF291816 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Pashtu 1700 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Reports from Kabul indicate that following repeated attacks by the mujahidin on Soviet supply columns on Salang Highway, the Soviets are now resorting to air transport. The reports indicate that between 5 and 15 January 22 Soviet IL-26 heavy transport aircraft were seen landing at Kabul airport.

The reports indicate that food prices have soared in Kabul. During the past 2 months alone the price of flour has risen by 25 percent. The reports add that the daily consumer goods like oil, sugar, and petroleum, are scarce and are being sold at vry high prices on the blackmarket.

Bomb Damages Bridge on Route Planned for Gandhi
HK291558 Hong Kong AFP in English 1553 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Madras, India, Jan 29 (AFP) — A powerful bomb blast today damaged a road bridge along the route planned for Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who was due in this southern Indian State of Tamil Nadu on Friday, police said.

Police said they suspected the local Kisan Liberation Movement — an organisation associated with a pro-Beijing communist group, generally known as Naxalites — to be responsible for the incident.

The explosion near Thiruvaiyaru village, about 250 kilometers (156 miles) from this state capital, damaged a bridge over the Kudamurutti River, but no one was hurt, police said.

Police recovered an unexploded detonator from the spot. They found the words "Tamil Eelam Army" and a slogan on local river water shortage written on the side of the bridge wall. But they ruled out involvement by separatist Tamils from neighbouring Sri Lanka in the incident, though thousands of Tamil refugees have fled to this state since ethnic trouble erupted in the island republic.

Mr Gandhi is to formally open a government-backed Tamil cultural centre and take part in a function in memory of a Tamil saint at Thiruvaiyaru on Friday. He was to arrive at the nearby town of Thanjavur by helicopter and then proceed to Thiruvaiyaru by road. Authorities have ordered tight security in the area following the blast. There was no immediate arrest.

Further Details
BK300325 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] In Tamil Nadu, a bridge was damaged in an explosion on the Tanjavur-Thiruvaiyaru Road early yesterday. Police said that the explosion damaged the parapet wall of the bridge on the river Kudamurutti near Thiruvaiyaru, no one was injured. The annual music festival in memory of the saint composer, Thyagraja Aradhana, was to begin last evening at Thiruvaiyaru.

Tight Security for Pope's Visit Planned
HK290922 Hong Kong AFP in English 0857 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] New Delhi, Jan 29 (AFP) — India has planned intense security for Pope John Paul II's visit, with 20 "Black Cat" commandoes forming a human cordon around the Pope and thousands of police in the crowds, official sources said today.

The security, ranked on the "Category A" level accorded to heads of state, was decided after some churches here received at least three letters containing threats to kill the head of the world's 850 million Catholics, sources said. The Pope also is likely to face demonstrations by militant Hindu organisations. Some groups here have demanded that he recognize all religions and denounce proselytizing.

The Black Cat commandoes, named for their black battle dress, are considered the cream of India's security network. They form security for Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, one of the world's most closely guarded leaders. The commando group was formed after he assumed power from his mother, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, who was assassinated in 1984, and is drawn from all of India's security organizations. "They are the top security men in India today," said one source.

They will be part of a "special protection group" set up to form the inner security ring around the Pope during his 10-day visit beginning Saturday, said the sources, who requested anonymity.

The sources said churches in New Delhi, Ranchi and Madras also have been told to give minimum possible public exposure to the Pope because of the threats. "We have received information that certain non-Christian sects do not like his tour... There may be security hazards," an intelligence official said quoting a security plan document. "On average, some 600 police will be on duty in each of the places the Pope will visit," one source said.

However in Ranchi, an eastern India industrial town where half a million people are expected to gather, 2,000 policemen and officers have been assigned to the visit on Monday. A section of the militant separatist group Jharkhand Mukti Morcha is planning a demonstration to protest against alleged mass conversion of Hindu tribals to Christianity, Ranchi police chief J. Singh told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

In Madras, southern India, which has a high concentration of Christians, Tamil Nadu State special police commandoes will join the Black Cats in the inner security ring because of two anonymous letters threatening assassination have been received there. The Pope is to travel in a specially made automobile flown here. The "Popemobile" has armoured sides and a strengthened chassis. But officials said the Pope may have to use Indian cars in certain places. They gave no reasons.

In New Delhi, the papal motorcade from the airport to Sacred Heart Cathedral is to be guarded and all vehicular traffic along the way will be suspended, the sources said. Commandoes and sharpshooters are to man tree tops and high buildings to give any necessary covering fire, police sources said.

The city's additional police commissioner Arun Bhagat said that at last half of an armed police battalion would be mobilised. One battalion consists of 1,200 men. "He is going to so many places and appearing at so many public functions that security will always remain a problem... but we are doing everything," an official source here said. The Pope is to visit 11 cities and cover more than 15,000 kilometers (10,000 miles) by plane, helicopter and car.

Papandreou Rules Out Military Action From U.S Bases
BK271621 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Jan 86

[Text] The six nations, which issued a declaration on disarmament from Delhi, are planning an initiative in support of the Soviet leader, Mr Gorbachev's proposal. Mr Andreas Papan-

dreou, the prime minister of Greece, who is one of the signatories to the delcaration, told a news conference in New Delhi today that work has already been done at lower levels. The top leaders will issue a joint statement in the next few weeks in this connection. There will be other meetings of leaders of the six nations well before the projected summit between President Reagan and Mr Gorbachev later this year. The other signatories to the 6-nation declaration are Argentina, Mexico, Sweden, and Tanzania, besides India.

Mr Papandreou described Mr Gorbachev's proposal as one of the most positive moves that could have been made. He said he had discussed the proposal with prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and they are in complete agreement with the proposal which envisaged elimination of nuclear weapons before the end of the century.

Replying to a question, the Greek prime minister said his country will not allow its territory to be used bg the United States for any action against Libya.

Referring to Indo-Greek relations, he said though these are good, a great deal can be done to promote them further as there is a great potential for economic cooperation.

Foreign Secretary Bhandari To Visit Sri Lanka

BK291243 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] The foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, is to visit Sri Lanka from the 3d to the 5th of next month. He will hold discussions with the Sri Lankan leaders. The visit is a part of continuing efforts to find a peaceful and negotiated settlement to the ethnic issue in Sri Lanka.

UK Sikh's Murder Condemned; Gandhi Sends Condolences

BK241604 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] The Government of India has condemned the assassination of Mr Tarsam Singh Toor in London last night by a suspected terrorist. Mr Tur was the secretary of the Indian Overseas Congress. He was shot at from close range in his shop in Southall near London and died as a result of the injuries he sustained.

A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said in New Delhi today that the cowardly shooting of Mr Toor is one of a series of recent attacks on moderates in Britain. India hopes that the British Government will take appropriate action to prevent recurrence of such terrorist acts and a climate will be restored in which the voice of reason can be encouraged to speak without fear.

The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has sent a message of sympathy to the family of Mr Toor. Twelve senior Congress-I legislators from Punjab have condemned the murder of Mr Toor. In a joint statement, the legislators described Mr Tur as an eminent scholar who constantly fought and raised his voice against terrorism and antinational elements.

UK To Provide Protection

BK281008 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0847 GMT 28 Jan 86

[Text] The British Government has assured India that no effort will be spared to track down the killer of General Secretary of the Indian Overseas Congress Tarsam Singh Toor who was killed in London last week. British Home Secretary Douglas Hurd told Indian High Commissioner in London Doctor P.C. Alexander that an investigation is being conducted on the basis that it was a political murder. The high commissioner had met the home secretary to convey New Delhi's concern over the killing. Later Doctor Alexander told newsmen that the British Government will provide police protection to moderate leaders of the Indian community in Britain.

Commentary Blames UK Inaction

BK291418 Delhi General Overseal Service in English 1340 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Commentary by S.C. Bhatt, political commentator]

[Text] The failure of the British Government to act against the group of Sikh terrorists sheltering in that country has again been brought into focus by the murder of a prominent leader of the Indian community. Mr Tarsam Singh Toor, general secretary of the Indian Overseas Congress and a leading moderate Sikh, was gunned down in a shop in Southall, London, a few days ago. He was shot at point blank range allegedly by a white man, who was obviously a hired killer. The same terrorist group, which had made attempts on the life of two other moderate Sikhs recently, was apparently behind Mr Toor's murder. The other two who escaped death were Mr Santap Singh Sandoo, chief organizer of the Akali Dal who was shot only a week earlier, and Mr Sohan Singh, another leader of the Indian Overseas Congress who was a target of terrorist violence in November last. As if these two incidents were not sufficient warning to the British police and the British government, there was no apparent effort to trace the criminals nor was protection extended to the man on whom the killers were to drain their weapons next.

Some 2 years ago another extremist group enjoying the hospitality of the British Isles abducted an Indian diplomat at Birmingham, Mr Ravindra Mahatre, and subsequently killed him. His killers were identified and while some of them escaped to Pakistan, some were brought to book. But the action proved to be a flash in the pan. The Sikh terrorists openly indulged in threats of violence and even talked of killing the late prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, and the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi. The venerable BBC went to the extent of interviewing these extremists and their threats to kill Indian leaders were given media coverage.

Time and again the Indian Government has drawn London's attention to the activities of the Sikh terrorist elements, their indulgence in anti-Indian demonstrations, burning of the Indian flag, intimidation of the moderate leaders of the Sikhs in particular, and of the Indian community in general. When Mr Rajiv Gandhi was in Britain in October last, he had discussed the matter with his British counterpart. Assurances of swift actions

to curb the extremists were given with results which we have seen. What is worse, some of the protagonists of the so-called Khalistan, including the one who calls himself its defense minister, have been favored with special housing or other benefits. British hearts seem to be striking sympathetic notes, else how could special housing be allocated to the so-called Khalistani leader? How would Britain react if the outlawed Irish Republican Army were given the same kid glove treatment by New Delhi were those terrorists to seek refuge in India and claim political refugee status? After all, the Irish terrorists claim to fight for a cause and yet when the IRA struck at a hotel where the entire British Tory leadership, including the prime minister of that country, was staying, India condemned the action with one voice. It is for Britain to see how the elements from the Sikh community, which are carrying on anti-Indian activities and indulging in violence, should be put down and rendered harmless. Britain should realize that it is these elements which have nurtured the separatist Sikh movement, and the actions directed against India's integrity gives some sustenance to the terrorists in Punjab.

Canada, another country where there is a sizable Indian community, many of them Sikhs, has also to wake up to the danger posed by the Sikh terrorists who are quite active in that country. Until the terrible tragedy of the Air India jumbo *Kanishka's* crash in the Atlantic and the blowing up of a baggage at Tokyo airport airlifted there from Canada, the Ottawa authorities were inclined to take Indian warning of the extremist danger lightly. Even after the *Kanishka* outrage, Canada has not taken effective steps to come down on the elements at Vancouver and other cities indulging in anti-Indian activities. Canada can also be asked how it would react if India gives the same soft treatment to one of the French secessionist groups working against Canada.

The vast majority of the Sikhs in Britain, in Canada and elsewhere are hard working, peace loving people, loyal to India or to the country of the adoption. But most of them prefer to keep quiet in the face of the open intimidation by the extremists harbored in those countries.

When some brave men like the late Mr Tarsam Singh Toor take courage in their hands and speak up against the anti-Indian elements, they are silenced by the use of the gun, and the response of the civilized countries like Britain or Canada is that their laws do not permit their governments to stop anti-India propaganda and open intimidation of the peaceful elements. The question can longer be avoided: Is it lawful to utter threats and carry them out, to openly preach violence and organize cessationist activities against a friendly country? Can India be blamed if she considers such actions as not very friendly?

Further on Unrest Incidents at Sikhs' Golden Temple

Akali Dal Condemns 'Illegal' Act

BK271611 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Jan 86

[Text] The Akali Dal has condemned the allegedly illegal activity which took place in the Golden Temple complex yesterday. A resolution adopted at a high level meeting in Chandigarh said these acts are against the tenets of Sikhism. It said the SGPC [Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak — Sikh temple management committee] is the only democratically constituted body responsible for the management of the gurdwaras. The right to summon the Sarbat Khalsa [World Sikh Convention] rests only with the chief of the Akal Takht [highest seat of Sikhs] and the appointment of jathedars [priests] can be done only as per the Gurdwara Act, the resolution stated.

The meeting appealed to the entire Sikh panth [community] to give the cooperation to the Akali Dal and the SGPC for maintaining the high traditions and sanctity of Shri Darbara Sahib [Golden Temple] and Shri Akal Takht Sahib. The meeting was presided over by the party president Mr Surjit Singh Barnala. The party MP's, MLA's [members of legislative assembly], district presidents and senior Akali Dal leaders took part.

Releasing the resolution to newsmen, the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee chief, Mr G.S. Tohra, said an informal meeting of the SGPC will be held at Anantpur Sahib tomorrow to decide the future course of action. He said he is against any confrontation within the Golden Temple complex. But at the same time any violation of the Sikh tradition and sanctity of a religious place cannot be tolerated, he added.

Militants Vow To Remain in Temple

HK300752 Hong Kong AFP in English 0734 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] Amritsar, India, Jan 30 (AFP) — Sikhs militants who took over the Golden Temple here on Sunday today vowed to resist any attempts to dislodge them, saying "we will give our blood, but will not leave the shrine." "We are ready to die... whoever wants to throw us out of our most sacred temple will have to do (so) over our dead bodies," said their spokesman, Mokham Singh.

Observers said the announcement came amid fear security forces might enter the shrine to clear out the militants campaigning for a separate Sikh homeland in northern Punjab State. About 600 militants armed with swords and spears and a few World War II vintage rifles remained in control of the Golden Temple today, eyewitnesses said. Militants took over the shrine in this Sikh holy city on Sunday during a religious convention.

Indian paramilitary troops who have built sand bunkers on buildings around the temple today kept a close watch on it, eyewitnesses said. The temple was the scene of a fierce battle in June 1984 when the Indian Army stormed it to dislodge militants. At least 650 people died in the attack.

Mr. Singh said militants would not make the "first move" if any attempt was made to dislodge them. "We will offer resistance peacefully, but it is the dictate of our gurus to protect the shrine by our blood... so if the government sends the forces in, we will resist it," he said.

The militant faction of the Sikh political party, the Akali Dal, meanwhile, passed a resolution demanding the quick removal of the paramilitary forces which have built the sand bunkers around the shrine. "The security forces are unnecessarily creating tension... they are creating a pre-June 1984 situation for no reason," said Mr. Singh, quoting the resolution. "We, the people inside,

are just performing our religious duties and we strongly feel that we should be left in peace to do our duties," he said.

The militants began demolishing the "Akal Thakt" — or the throne of the timeless — on Monday in order to rebuild it by traditional Sikh labour or "Kar Seva." The shrine was damaged during the army's June 1984 attack and was rebuilt with government help but without the approval of Sikh religious authorities.

Meanwhile, informed sources said the shrine would have to be cleared before a religious convention called by Sikh moderates was summoned. The proposed "Sarbat Khalsa" convention has the same religious importance as the one held by the militants Sunday. The moderates called for the convention after meeting earlier this week in another Sikh shrine city, Anantpur Sahib, to review the situation after the militant take-over of the Golden Temple.

The moderates, who signed a peace accord with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in July aimed at ending a campaign for greater Sikh autonomy in Punjab, control the government in the strategic border state. No date has been fixed for the moderate convention, but the sources said it could be held any time between February 7 and 16.

2 Killed in Amritsar District

BK300309 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] In Punjab, two persons were killed and one seriously injured when four unidentified armed miscreants fired at them near Lopoke village in Amritsar District last night. One of the killed has been identified as Mohan Singh, a member of the village panchayat [council], and the injured as block Congress-I president of Lopoke, Mr Vijay Kumar. The two killed were loading fertilizers in a tractor at the shop of Mr Vijay Kumar at the time of the attack. The police have launched a manhudnt for the culprits.

Prime Minister Presides Over Meeting of New Cabinet

BK291629 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] The first meeting of the new Federal Cabinet was presided over by Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo in Rawalpindi today. Welcoming the Cabinet members, the prime minister said the new Cabinet must shoulder heavy responsibilities because it is the first occasion in many years that the elected government is fully accountable to the people. He said the tasks of the cabinet members require dedication and skill so that future challenges can be faced and the expectations of the people fully met. The prime minister stressed that the Cabinet members should give special attention to the welfare of the people, especially the poor and deprived in society, because these people are looking to the new democratic government to solve their problems and redress their grievances.

The prime minister said the government sgould adopt progressive and dynamic social and economic policies in light of the 5-point program announced during his address to the nation last month. It will be the special responsibility of the Cabinet to see that this is fully implemented in a responsible manner. The prime minister advised the Cabinet members to freely express their views and ideas. He said they will have full freedom in this connection, but when a decision is taken it becomes the collective responsibility of the Cabinet to fully implement it.

Mohammad Khan Junejo also emphasized that the federal ministers and ministers of state should strengthen institutions and establish contacts with the people at the grassroots level so that the people support the government's policies and programs and the people have confidence that the government is fully capable of solving their problems. In this connection the Cabinet considered the evil of corruption and measures to effectively face it.

The Cabinet also considered the agenda of work before the National Assembly and Senate and decided on the arrangements that are necessary to effectively handle the business in both houses.

It also reviewed the political situation in the country and said there is a need for associating people with the decicion-making process of the government. It was decided that the Cabinet should meet regularly at least once every 15 days or more often so that all important issues are brought under consideration by the Cabinet, the highest decision-making institution in the country. The Cabinet also decided that the economic committee will meet regularly every week to review the economic situation and that all everyday problems in the economic field will be solved speedily and effectively. The Cabinet meeting started with a recitation from the Koran by Commerce Minister Mohyuddin Baluch.

'Thousands' Attend Opposition Rally in Lahore

NC291849 Paris AFP in English 1839 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Lahore, Jan 29 (AFP) — Tens of thousands of people rallied today in an impressive show of strength by the 11-party opposition Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD). It was the first time all the parties of the extra-parliamentary coalition have joined together since martial law was lifted in Pakistan on December 30. But the rally also showed up some dissensions between party militants within the coalition as they face the prospect of open politics with the gradual return of civic liberties.

All opposition leaders who have not left Pakistan were free to attend the rally in a working class district here. Their speeches to an enthusiastic crowd, many carrying portraits of former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto who was executed in 1979, repeated calls for a return to the democratic Constitution of 1973, for free elections with party politics and the release of political prisoners.

MRD leaders are due to meet here Thursday and Friday to decide whether to accept or not the registration of their parties included in new laws passed by a Parliament they do not recognise. The MRD boycotted the February elections. The outcome of the meetings is by no means sure with the moderate Tehrik-e Istiqlal Party already declaring it intends to register.

Sikhs To Lodge Protest Over Hijackers' Sentence

GF281333 Lahore JANG in Urdu 22 Jan 86 p 1

[Article by *JANG* correspondent]

[Text] London — The president of the Khalistan Government in exile, Jagjit Singh Chauhan, has strongly protested against the judgements pronounced against the Sikh hijackers. He said these sentences were most cruel and unjust. He said the Sikhs had gone to Pakistan on a holy mission and they were sentenced without being given a chance to defend themselves. He said that these judgements were political and meant to please Rajiv Gandhi so that Pakistan could get back the Siachen glacier and also could come to some understanding with India on other disputed matters.

He said that the Sikh hijackers had been kept in jail for 5 years without trial in contravention of the Geneva Convention and the human rights charter. He said that these hijackers were not even allowed to meet their family during this period.

He further complained that the Pakistan Government did not allow the lawyers of the Sikhs to defend their cases and also had banned entry of several Sikhs into Pakistan. These Sikhs wanted to be present at the court proceedings against the hijackers and to render help if needed. He said the Sikh hijackers were engaged in a holy war to liberate their homeland which had fallen under the control of the Hindu imperialists. He said a similar case is today being heard in India. There the Sikh hijackers have been given several facilities.

He said that the judgements pronounced against the Sikh hijackers by Pakistan rulers have shocked the Sikh nation, and that this will never be forgiven.

He said: We do not want Pakistan to side with the Sikhs; Pakistan should remain neutral. We will lodge a formal protest against these judgements with the Government of Pakistan.

Party Official Attributes High Drug Use to Refugees

GF300538 Rawalpindi HAIDAR in Urdu 25 Jan 86 p 1

[Article by *HAIDAR* correspondent]

[Excerpt] Lahore, 24 Jan - The vice president of the women's section of the Tehrik-e Istiqlal Party, Sorraiya 'Aziz, said that due to the wrong policies of the regime, 3 million Afghan refugees are responsible for the growing curse of heroin addiction in the country.

It is wishful thinking for the government to believe that these refugees will go back to their homes; this is impossible. She said that the government has issued passports, identity cards, and driving licences to these refugees. History is a witness to the fact the Afghans who crossed the border into Pakistan have never gone back. These refugees now own property in Pakistan. She added that it is due to these refugees that every third person in Pakistan is a heroin addict. She claimed that Soviet spies are entering Pakistan in the garb of refugees. She further said that the foodstuff given to these refugees is being sold openly in the Peshawar market.

Mujahidin Actions in Qandahar, Herat Detailed

BK290810 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] In Afghanistan, mujahdin attacked and destroyed offices of the Karmal regime in the Nevand subdivision of Qandahar Province, killing 21 Soviet-Karmal troops. Meanwhile, according to reports from Herat, many mujahidin were martyred when Karmal troops attacked their base near the city. Karmal troops' shelling also killed many civilians in the outskirts of Herat.

BANGLADESH

Li Xianian To Pay Official Visit 8 Mar

BK291551 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Chinese President Li Xiannian will pay a 4-day state visit to Bangladesh on the 8th of March next at the invitation of President Ershad. This was officially announced in Dhaka today. The invitation was extended during President Ershad's state visit to China in July last year. The Chinese president will hold talks with President Ershad on matters of bilateral relations and regional and international issues.

Observers say that Mr Li Xianian's visit will further strengthen the close of bonds of friendship between the two countries. China is a major partner in the economic development of Bangladesh. It is providing aid on a number of important project including Ponash urea fertilizer factory, Sunderban textile mill and Buriganga River bridge.

PRC Minister, Delegation Conclude Visit 23 Jan

BK240204 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] The 10-member Chinese delegation led by the minister for chemical industry, Mr Qin Zhongda, left Dhaka yesterday after an 8-day visit to Bangladesh. Mr Qin, who led his country at the second session of the Bangladesh-China joint commission, also attended the inauguration of the Kalas urea fertilizer factory. He also held detailed discussions with a number of ministers to (?stabilize) and develop the existing economic relations between the two countries.

China has agreed to assist Bangladesh in the mining and exploration of coal deposits at (Boropokuria) in the northern parts of the country. It also agreed to consider (?Dhaka's) request for setting up of some new projects including a number of fertilizer plants and power distribution projects. The delegation visited Chittagong, Chandraghona and Kaftari.

NEPAL

General Elections Scheduled for 12 May

BK291650 Katmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 24 Jan 86 p 1

[Excerpts] The general elections will be held on Monday, 29th of Baishakh 2043 B.S. Bikram Sangha (May 12) to elect 112 members of the Rastriya Panchayat from 75 districts of the country. Elections will be held on the same day all over the Kingdom. This is stated in a notice published here Thursday by the Election Commission. Polling will begin at 8:00 hours in the morning and will close at 17:00 hours.

Chief Election Commissioner Surya Prasad Shrestha said Thursday that a comprehensive election schedule will be brought out in due course of time to begin election works from the 17th of Chaitra, 2042 B.S. [31 March].

This is the second general elections after the second amendment to the constitution of Nepal. The first election was held in 2038 B.S., five years ago.

Of the total 140 seats at the Rastriya Panchayat, 112 members are elected on basis of adult franchise. Total voters for the coming general elections hover around 8,974,199. There will be more than 12 thousand polling centres.

SRI LANKA

Athulathmudali Tours North; Tamil Refugees Return

BK271159 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 27 Jan 86

[Text] Tamils who went as refugees to India are now returning in large numbers. This number is on the increase according to a top naval official who informed this to National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali.

The minister who toured the northern province yesterday visited the surveillance zone up to Mannar and held talks with Aymed personnel. Mr Athulathmudali also visited the security services headquarters at Vanni, a naval camp at Karainagar, and the Kalladi camp in Mannar. His visit also included Nagadeepa, Kayts, Kachchativu, Eluvativu.

The minister held talks with suspected terrorists detained at a security center. Among the terrorist suspects were those who had maintained a television center illegally. These suspects told the minister that they had maintained the center on a commercial basis. One of the detenus was a Sinhalese who resisted the terrorists in planting a bomb. The suspects told the minister that the army was providing them with all their day to day requirements.

Earlier, the minister visited the security centers in Vavuniya and Mannar. He expressed his appreciation for the services rendered by the armed personnel and said that the president himself was satisfied with their activities. The minister stressed the need for discipline among the armed personnel. Mr Athulathmudali also visited the surveillance zone and other areas in Jaffna.

The fishermen in Vavuniya who met the minister requested him to make more facilities available for them to market their produce. The minister assured them that the facilities would be made available in time.

Indian High Commissioner Views Citizenship Issue

BK261320 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 26 Jan 86

[Text] The Indian high commissioner, J.N. Dixit, said that a critical and unjust assessment had been in the statement of the SLFP about the [words indistinct] cooperative efforts undertaken by the governments of India and Sri Lanka regarding the

stateless persons. The high commissioner said the statement that the original Indo-Lankan agreement had been changed or violated by arrangements announced on 15 January is incorrect.

The high commissioner was replying to queries regarding a statement issued by Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike recently. He said the Indian government's response to suggestions made by the Sri Lankan Government does not violate the 1964 and 1974 agreements in any manner in letter or in spirit. He said that neither Indian nor Sri Lankan citizenship was to be imposed on stateless persons in Sri Lanka. It was purely voluntary. The Government of India will be conferring Indian citizenship on Tamils of Indian origin on a voluntary basis and only those who have applied for it by October 1981 would get it.

The high commissioner remarked that he was not aware of illicit immigrants coming from India to Sri Lanka. India has no people to protect in Sri Lanka except Indian citizens and it is India's fervent hope that the Sri Lankan Government and its leaders will protect all its citizens.

Meets With Jayewardene

BK280919 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 28 Jan 86

[Text] India has conveyed to Sri Lanka its concern on the continuing violence against Tamil civilians in the northern and eastern parts of the island. This was conveyed by the high commissioner, Mr J.N. Dixit, to President Jayewardene in Colombo last evening. The high commissioner stressed New Delhi's desire that the military approach will not only complicate the situation but will cause more sufferings to the civilians.

Mr Jayewardene told Mr Dixit that Colombo's reaction to the TULF's proposals will be finalized very shortly. Mr Jayewardene said further discussions with the foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, will be held to find a political solution of the ethnic problem.

The high commissioner also drew Mr Jayewardene's attention to the incidents in Killinochchi in which 17 persons were killed. The Sri Lankan president said investigations are in progress and appropriate measures will be taken.

Meanwhile, according to Tamil daily, *VIRAKESARI*, at least 10 civilians were killed when security forces struck at Tampalakaman, a village about 18 km from Trincomalee. Security forces, however, say that only five militants were killed when they raided a hideout yesterday.

Draft Citizenship Bill Referred to Supreme Court

BK251134 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Text] The president has referred the citizenship bill to the Supreme Court to determine whether its provisions are consistent with the Constitution. A 3-member bench comprising the chief justice, Mr S. Sharvananda, and justices Ranasinghe and L.H. de Alwis, will sit on Monday to determine the constitutionality of the bill. The bill is titled The Grant of Citizenship to Stateless Persons [word indistinct]. It is being referred to the Supreme Court under Article 122 of the Constitution which bestows the court with special constitutional jurisdiction in respect of a urgent bill.

The relevant article requires the court to make its determination within 24 hours or for such longer period not exceeding 3 days as the president may specify from the date of its assembling. The court is required to communicate its determination only to the president and to the speaker. Article 123 requires the court to state the reasons for its determination and, where a bill or any part thereof is inconsistent with the Constitution, to specify the provision of provisions with which the conflict occurrs.

Meanwhile, the Sri Lanka Freedom Party is challenging the bill as being inconsistent with the provisions of the Constitution.

Troops, Helicopters Repulse Tamil Attack

HK250600 Hong Kong AFP in English 0557 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Text] Colombo, Jan 25 (AFP) — Troops using mortars and air support repulsed an attack by militant Tamil separatists on an army camp in the northern Jaffna peninsula last night, security sources said today. The militants fired mortars and small arms at the camp in the village of Navatkuli about eight kilometres (five miles) from Jaffna town, the sources said.

Residents said that helicopters flying over the small village in support of the soldiers fired at the attackers. They said that casualties were likely as several houses were damaged by shell fire from the camp and some were set ablaze. Other sources said one person had been injured and taken to hospital. In Colombo, officials said they had no reports of helicopters firing at the village.

Police said that a police station in the Eastern Batticaloa District also came under mortar and automatic fire yesterday. They added that Wellawali police station was slightly damaged, but there were no casualties.

In Ampara District to the south, a suspected Tamil militant detained at an army camp was shot dead during an escape bid yesterday, security sources said. A magisterial inquiry into the death was to be held today, the sources added.

'Berserk' Soldier Shoots 10, Injures 7

BK281108 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 28 Jan 86

[Text] A soldier who went berserk killed 10 civilians and injured 7 others at Kilinochchi on the 25th of this month. The incident occurred when about 50 terrorists attacked the Kilinochchi police station and the adjoining Army camp around noon. Government sources revealed that the terrorists' attack with mortars and machineguns was going on for some time when the coordinating officer decided to deploy the Army to outflank the attackers with a view to capturing them. The infantrymen were asked to go out

[word indistinct] fire from near the railway station as the attacks were coming from behind the railway station.

During the process, one of the soldiers suffered a temporary lapse of his senses and went berserk and fired his personal weapon in a frenzy at the railway station killing 10 persons, including some women and children, and injuring 7 others. The other soldiers immediately overpowered the demented soldier and disarmed him. The soldier concerned was not in his proper senses for several hours after the shooting. He was shivering and shouting out, making incoherent statements to the effect that terrorists were all around him. He is now in custody and brought to Colombo for investigation.

Curfew Imposed in Nuwara Following Ethnic Clashes

BK290306 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] In Sri Lanka, a 15-hour curfew was imposed in the central hill district of Nuwara yesterday. This follows ethnic clashes in which one person was killed and another injured in police firing. The situation is now reported to be under control but tense.

Curfew Areas Listed

BK291109 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] The curfew imposed yesterday and now in force in nine police divisions in the hill country has been extended to 0700 tomorrow without a break. Curfew order is in effect in the Maskeliya, (Vogovantalaba), Norwood, (Happy), Poddala, Talawakelle, Lindula, Agrapatana, and (Nanoi) areas. The curfew was imposed last night following incidents of looting and disruption of peace in the Talawakelle bazaar. Stern action will be taken against those who defy the curfew order.

The government has advised people in these areas not to believe in rumors which may be spread by mischievous elements who are out to create panic and confusions.

Troops Rushed to Plantation Areas

HK291250 Hong Kong AFP in English 1231 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Colombo, Jan 29 (AFP) — Extra troops were rushed to several hill towns today as a curfew was further extended amid continuing tension between Sinhala and Tamil plantation workers, official sources said.

Extra troops were sent to Talawakelle and several others tea plantation areas to join police and soldiers already there to curb violence after more shops were set ablaze in continuing violence yesterday, police sources said. The sources said that 18 shops in Watagoda and Lindula, near Talawakelle where the violence first erupted Monday, were torched last night. The shops were owned by Sinhala people, residents of the area said.

Reports said that workers had also set fire to the Watagoda railway station, but this was not immediately confirmed. At least 25 shops have been gutted by fire since the first troubles brokeout following a private dispute between a Sinhala shop owner and a Tamil customer, sources said.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE today that the situation in the tea plantation areas was "under control."

Reports from the areas said that tension was still high and some Sinhala families had left their homes for fear of attacks from estate workers who stayed away from plucking tea and other plantation duties today.

At least 25,000 plantation workers kept away today union sources said.

25 'Terrorists' Captured in Eastern Region

BK291311 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Twenty-five hardcore Tamil terrorists were arrested in several parts in the eastern province during the past 3 days. Security sources told LANKA PUWATH that these terrorists belong to the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization, Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, People's Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam, and the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front.

Meanwhile, the terrorists exploded a bomb at the Batticaloa railway station this morning and chased away the passengers. There were no damages to building or casualties.

Terrorists, who also demolished a culvert on the crossway of the Mullaitivu road, exploded a landmine near the Mullaitivu hospital junction and threw hand grenades at the troops yesterday.

Security sources told LANKA PUWATH that the troops returned fire causing the terrorists to flee. The roads were impassable due to the damage caused by the terrorist attack.

Tea Prices Stabilize As Cyanide Scare Subsides

BK271130 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 27 Jan 86

[Text] Steps carried out by Sri Lanka traditional tea buyers in Western markets show no trace of cyanide or any other contamination in Sri Lankan tea. A spokesman for a local tea firm told the national news agency, LANKA PUWATH, that confidence in the purity of Sri Lankan tea is building up once again and prices are expected to increase.

After 2 weeks of depressed prices, a welcome tendency in the stabilization of prices was evident at the Colombo tea auction last Tuesday [21 January].

Contradictory Radio Reports on PDRY Fighting Cited

LD301128 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] Reports received from South Yemen indicate that Abyan Province, birthplace of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, has been subjected to air raids and ground attacks by forces opposing him. According to a report carried by Ra's al-Khaymah radio the reports said: The opposing forces, armed with 400 tanks, attacked 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's birthplace. The radio of the new collective leadership said: Forces opposing 'Ali Nasir Muhammad have occupied Abyan Province. However, the radio backing 'Ali Nasir Muhammad announced: The opposing forces have been defeated.

The Abyan Province Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party also announced that units of the armed forces and police and national resistance groups have risen against those opposing 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and crushed their attack.

Lebanon's Shams al-Din Speaks at Islamic Conference

LD292327 Tehran IRNA in English 1904 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 29, IRNA — In their lectures at the fourth conference on Islamic thought here Wednesday scholars and theologians from Iran and other parts of the world discussed the various aspects of Islam as a political and social discipline on which to build a unique statehood and shape private and social life along divine guidelines suited to man and his nature.

The speakers at the conference also touched on the exploitative policies of the big powers and warned Muslim nations against succumbing to the destructive recipes prescribed by the big powers for ridding Muslim and Third World nations from their afflictions.

Vice Speaker of the Supreme Assembly of Shi'ite Muslims in Lebanon Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din said at the afteroon session of the conference here that the big powers assume an air of good will in their dealings with Muslim nations and pretend to be concerned for the well-being of Muslims and for peace of the Muslim world, while in reality the big powers promote purely selfish goals. "World peace as frequently heard from colonialistic world powers," said he, "means peace and power for the Western countries and war and poverty for the Third World."

The Lebanese official said Islamic unity is not something to the benefit of Shi'ites or Sunnites of this or that sect here and there in the Muslim world but rather in the ultimate interest of the Muslim world as an integrated whole.

Scholar and author of *Iran-Iraq War, Islam and Nationalism*, 'Abd al-Majid Torab-Zamzami said at the conference that a permanent plot of the big powers against the world Muslim nations is one of arousing nationalistic sentiments and ethnic feelings among Muslims as an agency whereby to pit them against each other. He called on world Muslims to struggle against "plots against the Islamic Republic of Iran" and get inspiration from the Islamic revolution in Iran.

Iranian scholar Hojjat ol-Eslam Amid Zanjani said in his lecture that "council" is an important element in the Islamic form of government which acts as a safeguard against arbitrary use of power as is common in non-Islamic statehoods...

The conference which opened here with a speech by President Khamene'i Wednesday is to continue until Friday January 31st.

Majlis Condemns 'Conspiracy' To Drive Down Oil Price

LD291801 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 29, IRNA — The Oil Committee of the Majlis Wednesday said that it was adamantly opposed to falling oil prices and said that failure to uphold the official price would be a betrayal of the Muslim and Third World countries. The committee in the statement condemned the big powers conspiracy to drive down oil prices, and warned that "such beguiling slogans as a the 'price war' should not panic the Third World oil producing countries or cause them to yield to the conspiracy." The statement said that by their unity and by acting concertedly OPEC members can foil the big powers' plot.

Addressing itself to "certain OPEC members among them the Saudi Government" the committee warned them against wasting their peoples' resources and called on them to beware the wrath of their own masses.

Commentary on Oil Market Situation

GF270844 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 27 Jan 86

[Commentary by the Central News Unit Research Group: "The Price Reduction Conspiracy — Its Causes, Dimensions, and Objectives"]

[Excerpts] According to the reports, the international oil market is still in the grip of tension and, except for a minimal increase in prices which took place on Saturday, the price of the North Sea crude is still less than $20 per barrel. With the passage of time, the dimensions of this crisis seem to be expanding. How long will this continue? What is the source of this crisis? How can we assess the dimensions and objectives? These are questions which, for the most part, can be answered in the context of prevailing circumstances, while the others will be answered by time itself.

In general, the factors enumerated as regards the international oil market are interrelated. Even if a solitary issue is discussed, this does not mean that it is not linked to other factors or policies. Besides, circumstances such as the moderate temperatures in Europe and the United States, the mobilization of strategic resources beyond that which is necessary, the reluctance of refineries to purchase crude, the increase in the production of OPEC members and others, the rise in transactions on the basis of marginal pricing, the announcement of a reduction of oil prices by the majority of producers, the violation of OPEC decisions by some OPEC members, and two other factors can be considered as reasons for the current position of the oil market which indicate that the present state of affairs has been artificially

created and, in light of the repercussions of this turmoil, can be deemed synonymous with the term conspiracy.

These two factors -- one being the measures taken by the Group of Five and the other the Saudi oil policy of the past month -- undoubtedly stem from the other general factors mentioned earlier, but they should be examined separately. The Group of Five, which is comprised of the five industrial stalwarts of the world, namely the United States, the FRG, Great Britain, France, and Japan have been discussing international economic and financial bottlenecks, that is, the financial problems in these five countries.

Our country's oil minister said in an interview on Sunday that the members of the Group of Five requested a gradual reduction in North Sea oil with assurances that the concomitant losses would be compensated. Great Britain initiated the decrease in prices by mobilizing its strategic reserves in the international oil market and, with the assistance of other OPEC members, created the present ferment in the international oil market. The fact that Saudi Arabia collaborated in this policy is worth mentioning. It obviates the fact that Saudi oil policy in the past month set the seal of approval on this trend.

Speaking on the reasons for the adoption of such a policy by Saudi Arabia, our country's oil minister said that Saudi Arabia is not OPEC's spokesman, but we heard this from Yamani himself, who thought that by mobilizing oil on this scale he could initiate a price war; but this has to be discussed by OPEC. We told Yamani that we have a better instrument to achieve this objective. Saudi Arabia has played a major role in creating the present critical conditions by releasing its surplus oil in the international market on the basis of its foreign reserves of $100 billion and without any thought to the problems of other OPEC members. Regarding the possible duration of the present oil exigency, our country's oil minister believes that it is temporary and that different type of emergency will materialize.

In light of the conplicated and diverse nature of the factors which have contributed to the present straitened circumstances of the oil market, this crisis will assume greater and more serious proportions and the world powers will then capitalize on the situation in various ways. In gauging the dimensions of this crisis, all the oil producers and exporters of the world -- except for some of the more opulent members -- will incur losses. The continuation of a price reduction has also affected the financial and currency markets of the world and, according to experts, the sudden plummeting of oil prices will inflict a blow on the international economy.

What do the world powers hope to attain by exacerbating the situation in the oil market? A drop in the value of currencies against the dollar will guarantee the increase in the value of other international currencies and in that of the Japanese yen. An increase in the yen's value will not have any effect except to bring about a decrease in Japan's exports and Japan would never accept such a situation. But following the recent fall in the value of the dollar against the yen and the fall in oil prices, the possibility increases that one of the reasons for this fall is to reassure Japan and elicit its permission on the basis of an increase in the value of the yen. Most experts believe that the present changes in the values against the yen and the reduction of oil prices on the international market have been brought about so that Japan will gain in this manner.

Despite this state of affairs, our country's officials asserted that the aim of the industrial powers in bringing about this critical situation in the international oil market was to exert pressure on the Islamic Republic of Iran. Following the foiling of the plot to attack Khark Island and deprive Iran of its income from oil exports, and at a time when the Karbala' convoys had initiated a campaign for the final defeat of the Iraqi ruling regime, world oppression envisaged that with the reduction in oil prices and coercing of the Islamic Republic, it would be able to douse the flames of the fervor of the combatants. But the Islamic Republic of Iran is blessed with the resilience and fortitude that will never allow it to bow down before such duress. Thus, on Saturday the Islamic Republic of Iran announced that in order to maintain its prices, it will halt the sale of its oil on the spot market.

Besides the two factors elaborated on above, world oppression is also pursuing other ulterior objectives which will be discussed at a later date.

In light of all that has been said, what can be done at this juncture? As our oil minister said, the Islamic Republic of Iran will reduce its short-term production and in the long run it will impose restrictions on the import of goods from Western customers of oil in order to prevent them from investing in OPEC countries.

We hope that members of the OPEC cartel will comprehend the gravity of the present situation and its sensitivity in following the above policy and will act in coordination with Iran, God willing.

Oil Ministry Official Leaves for UAE, Saudi Arabia

LD291300 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Yesterday evening, Kazempur-Ardabili, the deputy oil minister for trade and international affairs, left for the UAE and Saudi Arabia with a written message from Mr Khamene'i, our country's president, within the framework of the policy to explain the Islamic Republic's stances on ways of controlling the oil market situation, the serious confrontation against the arrogant plot to reduce oil prices, ways of preventing overproduction, and the necessity of increasing solidarity among the OPEC members.

During his meetings with the oil ministers of the above-mentioned countries, Kazempur-Ardabili will discuss various issues related to the oil market and other issues of mutual interest. He will also submit our president's message to the leaders of these two countries.

It is necessary to point out that during these meetings, in view of the existing oil market situation, the views of the Islamic Republic of Iran, together with some proposals on solidarity and strengthening of the market, which require new changes on reduction of supply and stricter control over the OPEC member countries' quotas, will be discussed and views exchanged.

Information Minister Warns Against Factionalism

LD291453 Tehran IRNA in English 1220 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Esfahan, Jan. 29, IRNA — The minister of information, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Mohammadi-Reyshahri, speaking to a gathering of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC), here Wednesday, stressed that factionalism should be avoided. Due to importance of the issue, he added, Imam Khomeyni has stressed that political tendencies should not infiltrate into military and security organizations.

Further in his speech he pointed out that guarding the revolution was a highly important task which entailed great responsibilities. A person who is defending the Islamic revolution should have a complete knowledge of the revolution which should be attained through indepth research and not by imitation. Therefore, he added, political-ideological centers of the IRGC units played an important role in this connection. The minister of information also stressed the importance of piety.

Meanwhile, in another speech at the administrative council of the Esfahan Province, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammadi-Reyshahri said that information organization was vital to any system and added if it were not operating well the government could not function properly. Within several months, he added, the ministry has been able to create its establishments throughout the country and has made noticeable achievements in connection with internal security and preventing conspiracies and plots of Western and Eastern espionage networks.

He also called for cooperation of various organizations and their authorities with the Ministry of Information and praised people's cooperation with the ministry, which he described as unprecedented in the world. This proves, he concluded, that the Islamic revolution is deeply rooted.

Indonesian President, Envoy Discuss Expansion of Ties

LD292257 Tehran IRNA in English 1813 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 29, IRNA — Indonesia is willing to expand her economic, cultural and political relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran, it was announced by Indonesian President Gen. Suharto in a meeting with outgoing Iranian ambassador to Jakarta, 'Abdolazim Hashemi Nik Tuesday. The Iranian ambassador expressed hope that the two countries could exchange political, economic and cultural delegations aimed at strengthening their relations.

POW'S Torture by Iraqi Government Detailed

LD300728 Tehran IRNA in English 0726 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 30, IRNA — In a press conference attended by foreign and domestic reporters in an Iraqi POW's camp here Wednesday, some tortured Iraqi POW's who were forcibly sent to the war fronts by the Iraqi secret agents, spoke of their torture as well as that of Iraqi people and mujahidin by the Baghdad Government.

One of the POW's, Salim Hashim, told the reporters that he had been tortured both mentally and physically by Iraqi Government agents while imprisoned. He said that beating prisoners on the soles of their feet with sticks was a normal routine. He said that Iraqi jailers in "Abu Gharib" Prison mass executed those prisoners who had received the severest torture and were unable to go to the fronts. On September 23, 1982, a group of 350 Iraqi prisoners were executed upon the direct order of Saddam Husayn by an officer called Qassi-Bud in Abu Gharib prison, Salim Hashim said. He noted that he had personally witnessed the execution of 850 prisoners during a week.

On the kinds of torture practised by the Iraqi Government agents on prisoners, Salim Hashim said that burning prisoners' bodies with a cigarette, hanging hand-cuffed prisoners upside down by their feet from the ceiling fan and forcing them to give their blood were the most common types of torture.

He further said that the Iraqi officials commuted his punishment to 12 years of imprisonment after they had received 1000 Iraqi dinars from his family. The officials released him on condition he be despatched to the fronts. But, the POW said, he surrendered himself to Iranian Muslim combatants as soon as he was sent to the battlefield.

Another prisoner of war, Jabir 'Ali Yasir, 50, told the reporters that the Iraqi jail torturer had broken his arms and legs. He said they had also driven nails into his head. Yasir said that when Iraqi agents had seen his persistance in not giving up his beliefs, they transfered him to the Fifth Branch of the Iraqi secret police headquarters and forced him to stand up for 45 consecutive days.

Some other prisoners who had been tortured by the Iraqi regime showed the reporters signs of torture on their bodies such as their extracted finger nails, burnt skin, deep cuts made by glass, and mended bones broken by Iraqi agents.

SAIRI Reports Ba'thist Commander Killed in Najaf

LD292056 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 29, IRNA — Iraqi mujahidin killed Ba'thist commander Ahmad Sami in Najaf during the current week, according to the Supreme Assembly of Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) publication *RAHE-E KARBALA'* here. Sami was commander of a hot-pursuit which tracked down Iraqi mujahidin inside the city. According to the report the mujahidin disarmed and released other members of the team.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

31 JANUARY 1986

Libya

The Arab League Council condemned U.S. "provocations" against Libya, expressed solidarity with Libya against the U.S. economic blockade, and called on the Arab countries to support Libya and press for a UN Security Council meeting to investigate the U.S. "threats" against the Jamahiriyah, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio reported. However, sources at the conference in Tunis cited by AFP pointed out that the Council failed to impose retaliatory economic measures against the United States because a majority of the Arab states opposed radical action. During the meeting the Libyan foreign liaison secretary withdrew Libya's proposal for an Arab economic boycott of the United States, telling delegates that the Arab countries should decide what measures to adopt, according to KUNA. A Rabat radio report on the meeting noted that only eight Arab foreign ministers attended the session and that other Arab states were represented by their ambassadors to the Arab League.

In another diplomatic development, a Saudi envoy conveyed a message from King Fahd to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, Tripoli television reported. In Damascus, a Libyan envoy delivered a message from Col al-Qadhdhafi to President Hafiz al-Asad, who stressed Syria's support for Libya against U.S. "threats," according to Damascus television. In further Libyan reaction to the Space Shuttle explosion, Col al-Qadhdhafi sent a cable of condolences to the dead astronauts' families, telling them that the astronauts were "victims of imperialist greed," JANA noted.

Jordan Valley, Jerusalem Attacks

A caller from Beirut told AFP that Sabri al-Banna's Fatah-Revolutionary Council was responsible for the 29 January attack on IDF soldiers in the Jordan Valley. The PLO claimed responsibility for killing the Israeli "intelligence officer" in a statement broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio.

PDRY

A Supreme People's Council Presidium statement broadcast by Aden radio called for the trial of "conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his adventurous gang," but urged "misled" citizens who have left the country to return and live in security and peace. The statement, issued at the end of a Presidium session chaired by Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, also called for efforts to repair damage caused in the fighting and appealed to "fraternal and friendly countries" for aid and support. The YAR president's "constructive" stand was praised by the Presidium, which stressed that the PDRY will continue to consolidate relations with the YAR leadership in order to reunite Yemen on a peaceful and democratic basis.

As for the situation in Abyan Governorate, the radio noted that foreign journalists toured the area 29 January to view the "stable situation" there and ascertain the results of the "massacres" committed by 'Ali Nasir's "criminal gangs." An ANA commentary cited by the radio said that 'Ali Nasir has escaped abroad to join "counterrevolutionary" forces, adding that the former leader is broadcasting from an "external" radio station. In Riyadh, a South Yemeni envoy delivered a message from 'Ali Nasir Muhammad to Saudi King Fahd, SPA noted. Meanwhile, an Ethiopian press article reviewed by Addis Ababa radio deplored "completely improper" attempts to depict 'Ali Nasir as a collaborator with "reactionary circles."

FBIS DAILY REPORT

South Asia

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Karmal Interviewed by Foreign Journalists
LD291203 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Kabul, January 28, BAKHTAR — The following is the text of interview by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, president of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, granted to foreign journalists.

Elizabeth Hidbourge — Sweden: You have recently broadened your government to include 10 ministers who are not party members. [Words indistinct] the reason for doing this? What result do you hope to reach?

Nikkila — Finland: What are the reasons for the enlargement of the social bases of the Revolutionary Council and other leading bodies. Has that process already ended?

GDR radio-TV correspondent: Under the present conditions, the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan considers as one of the basic questions the broadening of the social basis of the revolution. What measures have been adopted or will be adopted in this regard?

Musafer, *AL-ANBA'*, Kuwait: It is known that the Afghan Government is trying to include in its ranks influential persons from different strata of the people. How many of such people have become ministers? What is the position of the PDPA vis-a-vis the new composition of the government?

Answer: On the basis of the declaration of the Revolutionary Council (RC) of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan dated 9 November 1985 concerning the expansion of the social basis of the revolution, the composition of the RC and the Council of Ministers of the DRA were expanded. The credible popular representatives reflecting the interests of social strata and groups, were newly included therein. The concrete results of this decision would be the ever expansion of the social bases of the revolution, i.e., the ever-greater attraction of the national patriotic forces for a broad country-wide cooperation on the basis of the interests of the entire peoples, national interests and for the implementation of the tasks and aspirations of the glorious April Revolution in building a new and democratic Afghanistan. On the other hand, these measures reflect the increasing confidence and the sense of cooperation of the people towards the revolutonary power.

Tom Higon — REUTER: Why did you decide to broaden the base of your government only in these two past months then, for example, two years ago? Is this related to Geneva talks, a change of policy in Kabul and Moscow or a new development in domestic politics?

Answer: The expansion of the social bases of the revolutionary power in the DRA emanates from the national and democratic character of the April Revolution. Our party as the guiding force of the society and the leading force behind the revolutionary transformations in the DRA has always paid constant attention to the question of the participation of the toiling classes and strata of the country in the state organs of the DRA. With triumph of the new and revolutionary phase of the revolution, the National Fatherland Front (NFF) of the DRA as the manifestation of the unity and cohesion of all the toiling classes and strata of the country was set up which is playing a significant role in growth and development of the revolutionary process in the DRA and the consolidation and expansion of the social bases of the revolution.

The NFF, covering tens of social and mass organizations on behalf of the toiling classes and strata of the DRA, has already taken part in administrating the affairs of the country and the decision-making process concerning the destiny of the homeland.

The extended, extraordinary session of the RC of the DRA, on 9 November 1985, once again assessed the revolutionary process in the country and pointed out the national-democratic character of the April Revolution and its urgent tasks under the present conditions.

During the recent years we have scored great victories in the sphere of consolidating the achievements of the revolution. Today our people, making use of the genuine democracy, elect their representatives for administering the affairs from the level of villages to that of provinces. The capability of the PDPA in the political leadership of the society has increased and the state of the DRA, manifesting the true will of the working masses of the DRA, enjoys growing credibility in the national and international arena. Spectacular socio-economic transformations have been and are being materialized throughout the country.

In comparison to the past, the situation of the country has changed and the time has ripened for the expansion of the social bases of the government and that of the RC.

To sum up, the recent measures in this sphere emanate from the national democratic character of the April Revolution and any other interpretation of these measures demonstrate the lack of understanding of the character of the April Revolution in the DRA.

Tom Higon: You have been bringing non-party members more and more into the government. [Words indistinct] mean the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan could eventually lose its leading role and become a partner in some kind of popular front?

Answer: The ever-wider participation of the patriotic and credible non-party social figures in the leading organs of the DRA state demonstrate the profound confidence of the masses of the people in the [words indistinct] and its correct policy for leading the revolution in our society. The great revolutionary achievements of the working people of Afghanistan have brought about new conditions for the further realization and expansion of the tasks an lofty aspirations of the national-democratic April Revolution in which the innovative role of the PDPA is quite clear. The ever increasing mobilization of the national and patriotic forces in the implementation of progressive transformations is the undelayable task of the present stage of the revolution. This [words indistinct] takes its roots from the lawful development of our society.

The implementation of the [words indistinct] socio-economic transformation in our country once again proves that the PDPA, as the sole vanguard force of the working class and all the toiling masses of the DRA, has and will have in future too the great historic mission of leading our society and revolution. This is the mission which the history has trusted on the PDPA.

Czechoslovak radio, TV correspondent: What are the conditions for the solution of the so-called the question of Afghanistan?

Answer: The beginning, continuation and intensification of armed intervention and other forms of interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan from Pakistan and Iran constitute the basic cause of the situation created around Afghanistan. Soon after the April national-democratic revolution in Afghanistan counter-revolutionary bands were created in Pakistan and Iran, particularly in Pakistaa, by international imperialism, U.S. imperialism at the head, Chinese hegemonism and the reaction of the region and intervention against our revolutionary country was [words indistinct]. Right now counter-revolutionary bandits are trained, equipped and armed in more than 120 military training camrs in Pakistar, Iran and China for murder and sabotage in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The continuation of this undeclared war against our revolutionary country is the main obstacle on the path of the normalization of the situation around Afghanistan.

Therefore, the termination of this armed intervention and other forms of interference in the internal affairs of the DRA and valid international guarantees concerning the cessation of interference and their non-resumption in the future constitute the main condition for the normalizatica of the situation around Afghanistan.

Elizabeth Hidbocrge — Sweden: What are you prepared to do in order to reach a peaceful settlement?

Answer: The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has spared no efforts toward the normalization of the situation around Afghanistan because this is in the interest of all the people of the region and will benefit peace and security in the region and in the world.

The [words indistinct] in the well-known statements of May 14, 1980 and August 24, 1981 are the most significant examples of such efforts. We have participated in the Geneva talks with good will and serious political determination and have made every efforts to assist in the [words indistinct] the process of the negotiation shows that we have demonstrated every logical flexibility in these talks. We will spare no efforts in this connection in the future as well.

Japanese journalist: Other then the negotiation in Geneva what kind of efforts you intend to do for the normalization?

Answer: As I said we will not spare any efforts towards this end. In our opinion if the other side also partipate in the current process of negotiation in Geneva with good will and sincere political determination this process can lead to a comprehensive political solution of the present situation around our country.

Tom Higon - REUTER: Would you be ready to meet general Ziaul Haq in a summit aimed at finding a solution to the Afghan war?

Answer: Truth and justice is on our side. Therefore we are not opposed to any constructive (?and positive) talks with Pakistan at any level (?in) which good will and genuine political determination is demonstrated for solving the differences.

Japanese correspondent: What kind of agreements have been reached at the Geneva indirect negotiation?

Answer: To be concise I can say that so far general agreement concerning the question of non-interference, international guarantee and the voluntary return of the refugees have been reached. However, some details remain in these regard which requires to be ironed out during direct negotiations.

Japanese correspondent: By what time do you intend to reach the final agreement at Geneva?

Answer: As I said, provided the other side also demonstrates genuine political will, reaching the final agreement must not take a long time.

Tom Higon - REUTER: In a recent interview, you rejected the United States as a guarantor of the peace plan. How can [words indistinct] the U.S. as a guarantor [words indistinct] aim is to stop American support for the rebels? Would this be the best way to get Washington to stop its aid to the rebels?

Answer: No, it is not correct to say that I have rejected the United States as one of the guarantors of non-interference. What I have said in the past — and possibily my comments might have been misinterpreted — is that we can not agree to any preconditions in this regard. Moreover, we maintain that there is a difference between words and deeds. We want to see concrete steps on [words indistinct] of the U.S. towards the success of the negotiation process and [words indistinct] from putting pressure on Pakistan for making it adopt a negative and non-constructive position in the talks.

Japanese journalist: It is said that you have reached agreement in Geneva on the international guarantees. Could you elaborate on the agreement?

Answer: As I said before, important agreements have been reached concerning the guarantees. When the Geneva negotiation process reaches its logical end and all the agreements are finalized, the contents of these documents will become public.

Nikkila, Finland: Is Afghanistan preparing so-called "fourth document". If yes, could you tell us some details about it?

Answer: Yes, we have prepared such a draft document. I can tell you very clearly that the moment Pakistan is ready for direct talks, we will be prepared to discuss the text of this document.

Tom Higon - REUTER: Recent press reports suggest you are ready to consider a Soviet troop withdrawal as part of the Geneva peace talks with Pakistan. Are you ready to discuss this? How

many Soviet troops are now in Afghanistan and how many would stay as part of any agreement?

Answer: Not only recently but from the very beginning we have clearly declared that the presence of the limited military contingent of Soviet in the DRA is of a temporary nature. Because of increasing armed intervention and other forms of interference from abroad, particularly from Pakistan, [words indistinct] internal affairs of the DRA which was threatening the independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity of our country, the government of the DRA decided to resort to collective self defence on the basis of the provisions of Article 51 of the UN Charter.

In other words, it was because of the danger of escalation of armed intervention from abroad that the DRA government requested and received limited military assistance from the traditional and loyal friend of the Afghan people, the Soviet Union, on the basis of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Good-neighbourliness between the two countries. When the cause, that is, interferences from abroad is eliminated and valid international guarantees are provided on the complete cessation and non-resumption of intervention and other forms of interferences in the future, the DRA government will discuss the question of the return of the limited military contingent of the Soviet Union and it will return to its peace-loving country.

Concerning another part of the question I would like to say that, yes, we have accepted to discuss during district negotiations the interrelationship between the non-interference, international guarantees and the voluntary return of refugees on the one hand, and the question of the return of the Soviet limited contingent on the other. The DRA side is prepared at any moment to discuss the document concerning this interrelationship, provided the other side is ready for direct negotiation. I can add that we have accepted that this fourth document should also contain (?a reasonable) time-frame for the (?return) of the limited military contingent of the Soviet Union.

We would like to clarify a very important point in this regard. On the basis of international law the question of the invitation and temporary stay of the Soviet limited military contingent on the territory of the DRA is totally an internal affair of Afghanistan and, therefore, the question of [words indistinct] return to their peace-loving country concerns only the DRA and the Soviet Union in the [words indistinct] of this, the fact that we have accepted that the inter-relationship between the return of the Soviet limited military contingent and the other component part of a comprehensive settlement be reflected in the [words indistinct] document demonstrates a basic flexibility on our part.

Japanese correspondent: Could you give us your [words indistinct] timetable for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan?

Answer: This is something that its inter-relationship with the other component parts of a comprehensive political settlement could be discussed during talks at Geneva. Its (?details) should be worked out (?in) a bilateral agreement between the DRA and the Soviet Union.

DPA correspondent, FRG: A great number of member countries of the UN have been demanding the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan during the past six years. The Kabul government is maintaining that using Pakistan [words indistinct] waged an undeclared war against Afghanistan and is emphasising that as a basic condition for the solution of this problem [words indistinct] the counter-revolution. (?Despite this deep) contradiction, do you see a possibility of solving this problem in the framework of the UN proposals?

Answer: The debate on the so-called problem of Afghanistan which for some years now has been imposed on the General Assembly of the United Nations by certain imperialists, hegemonist and reactionary circles is nothing but an unjustified and illegal interference in the internal affairs of the DRA. This debate is a gross violation of the UN Charter itself which prohibits the organisation from interfering in the internal affairs of member countries. Therefore, the resolution adopted each year at the end of this debate is not legally or morally binding on us. This is a fact that the representatives of the DRA have explained at the UN on the basis of the provisions of the organization's Charter.

On the other hand, the interferences of imperialist, hegemonist and reactionary forces, U.S. imperialism at the head, constitute, as I said before, the main reason behind the situation created around Afghanistan. The cessation of this interference and international guarantee of its nonresumption will return the situation to normal and will create the conditions for security and stability in our region.

Tom Higon - REUTER: The rebels fighting your government oppose the Geneva talks and have enough arms and munition to sabotage any settlement you and the Pakistanis may reach. Do you think the Geneva process can reach any agreement that would not be sabotaged by the rebels?

Answer: Your question depicts a wrong idea as if the Afghan counter-revolution can operate independently from the will of the government and the militarists of Pakistan. Firstly, it should be clarified that the Afghan counter-revolutionary groups, being a tool for the realization of the interventionists and war-mongering policy of the U.S., China, Pakistan and other imperialist countries in the framework of the undeclared war against the DRA, are void of any independent political will or action, they are serving as negative factors in the intensification of the situation around Afghanistan. Without the vast moral and material support and all-sided financial, military and political assistance of international imperialism and regional reaction, these mercenaries will not be able to resist against the unshakable will of the freeborn and revolutionary people and the (?heroic armed forces) of the DRA, in their struggle for defending the glorious April Revolution and building a new progressive society. If the undeclared (?war ceased), the heroic armed forces of our country is fully capable of effectively defending the independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the DRA.

Tom Higon - REUTER: Some Pakistanis say the government in Kabul must change, or at least you and some other leaders should step down, before any settlement can be reached. Are you ready to go so far as resigning in the interest of a peaceful settlement

to the Afghanistan problem?

Answer: I don't know whom do you mean by some "Pakistanis"? The absolute majority of the people in Pakistan and the leaders of the parties and social personalities in that country have time and again voiced their wish for the normalization of relations with the DRA through direct talks. If you mean the militarists who are ruling Pakistan with bayonets and are rejected by the majority of the people of Pakistan, it may not be surprising that they might have expressed such an idea.

Actually making such an expression not only shows their effort to intervene in the internal affairs of our free and independent country, the [words indistinct] out it reflects their ill-wishes [words indistinct] they should realize that in the country where the progressive and democratic social systems are dominant, it is the people who are determining the destiny of their countries. The credible representatives of all strata, classes, nationalities and tribes residing in our united homeland, revolutionary Afghanistan, have unanimously endorsed all the domestic and foreign policies of the DRA. Only [words indistinct] and free-born people of Afghanistan have the right to take decisions concerning the appointment of their state leaders.

S.P.K. Gupta - PTI, India: Prime Minister Gandhi of India discussed last October with Mr Reagan and M.S. Gorbachev about American guarantees and Soviet troops withdrawal, it is reported. Now that some progress has been made on guarantees (?of) withdrawals, what role do you think the Non-aligned Movements can play in getting Pakistan and Afghanistan to proceed with the next step to improve the situation around Afghanistan?

Answer: The importance of the role played by the Non-aligned Movement in the sphere of international relations in the preservation of world peace and security is undeniable. The DRA, as an active member of this movement has taken dynamic part towards the realization of the objectives and principles of the movement and emphasizes on its unity and anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist orientation. There is no doubt that the movement can encourage Pakistan to negotiate directly in the Geneva talks, the process of which is continuing between the representatives of the two countries. Likewise it can encourage the countries involved in the undeclared war against the DRA, to do [words indistinct] their assistance and participation in this unjust and imposed war.

Czechoslovk radio-TV correspondent: Please elaborate on the support of Pashto tribes for your country.

Answer: Having common traditional, cultural, economic and historic ties, our people, have always enjoyed the support of tribal brothers. The victory of the April Revolution as a turning point in the construction of a new society and the ensurance of the genuine equality between the tribes and nationalities of the country, enjoys the support of the tribes. On the basis of their free, just and peace-loving judgement, the tribes in the course of tens of jirgas have condemned the imposed, reactionary, hegemonist and imperialist undeclared war being mainly carried out from the territory of Pakistan as a spring-board of aggression against the DRA. They have asked for the ceasation of the interference in the internal affairs of the DRA. The High Jirga of frontier tribes, as a clear manifestation of the unity of the tribes, was recently held with the participation of [words indistinct] credible representatives of the tribes. By reaffirming and expressing support to the domestic and foreign policies of the DRA, the authoritive representatives of the valorous tribes decided during this Jirga that their areas should not [words indistinct] for the implementation of the imperialist and reactionary schemes against their brothers in the DRA.

The implementation of these historic decisions by the militant frontier tribes aroused the fury and hysteria of the militarists of Islamabad and their masters (?to the) fierce resistance of the tribes against the recent suppressive operations of the military regime of Pakistan aimed at removing the tribes as an obstacle on the way of the continuation of the undeclared war against the DRA, is the best manifestation of the solidarity of the tribes with their brothers in the DRA.

S.P.K. Gupta, India: The Afghan ambassador in Moscow is [words indistinct] Afghans can not let their Pashtun brothers be annihilated. What concrete measures of help do you envisage by Afghanistan for Afridis and Shenwaris in their present fight?

Answer: The people of Afghanistan have deep fraternal, national, tribal linguistic, historical and friendly ties with the valorous tribes residing from Chitral to Baluchistan and elsewhere. Being so close they are sharing their sorrow and hapoiness like two brothers.

The recent incidents which have taken place in Khyber as a result of the militarist policy of Pakistan, at the (?instigation) of imperialism, are aimed at intensifying and increasing tension in the region and exerting pressure on the free Pashtun tribes to accept the anti-Afghan policy of Islamabad. The people of Afghanistan and the social organizations of the DRA, among them the National Fatherland Front and the Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization of the DRA have expressed in their meetings and statements solidarity with their historic frontier Pashtun brothers.

Moreover, the government of the DRA has expressed its concern to the Pakistani authorities in connection to the assault of the soldiers of that regime on the tribal areas. We have despatched the messages of esteemed Malik Wali Khan Kokikhel Afridi and some other leaders of free tribes addressed to UN secretary general, the Organization of Islamic Conference and the prime minister of India and we are willing to render every kind of moral assistance to our Pashtun brothers.

Japanese correspondent: What kind of contacts do you have with the leaders of America and West European countries? You have plans to visit West European countries in the near future?

Answer: To have normal and friendly relations and mutually beneficial cooperation with all the countries of the world, irrespective of their social and economic system, on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence, respect for sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of each other, constitute the basis of the foreign policy of the DRA.

Stuart Lorry - CNN, USA: I have read many reports that your government would not survive with the withdrawal of Soviet

troops. Would you please comment on this?

Answer: The reports you have read is far apart from the reality. Any one who [words indistinct] the evolutionary process of the April Revolution or is familiar with the indefatigable struggle of the militant people of the DRA under the (?leadership) of the PDPA, carried out for the deep revolutionary transformation of our society, understands will that the revolutionary struggle is based on the interests of the entire working and patriotic strata and classes of our country and therefore enjoys the selfless support of the vast masses of the country.

As I have mentioned earlier, provided that an end is put to the undeclared war of imperialism led by US imperialism, Chinese hegemonism and regional reaction standing in an unholy front against our homeland, the heroic armed forces of our country with the cooperation of the people are able to give a befitting response to any threat directed against our independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Stuart Lorry - CNN, USA: Is there any way you could share power with counter-revolutionary leaders in a government resulting from a negotiated settlement?

Answer: Do you know who are these so-called leaders of the counter-revolutionary bands? These known [words indistinct] were for years in the service of the imperialist and reactionary circles and their espionage organizations. They have been rejected by the broad working masses of our country and have sought refuge in the folds of their imperialist and reactionary masters. Moreover, the hands of the each of them are stained with the blood of hundreds of noble sons of the homeland including the women, children and elders. They have bereaved hundreds of mothers in the mourning of their beloved sons and set ablaze the public and private riches of the people of Afghanistan including the mosques, hospitals, libraries, roads, bridges, power lines [words indistinct].

Due to all these murders, looting and criminal deeds, the counter-revolutionaries are hated by our people. How can you think under such conditions, that the people of Afghanistan could ever consider what you have pointed out.

Stuart Lorry - CNN, USA: Would those Afghans who fled to Pakistan after the revolution be welcomed back without retribution after a settlement?

Answer: Our policy in [words indistinct] quite obvious. The amnesty decree of the Presidium of the RC of the DRA, the resolutions of the historic Loya Jirga (Grand Assembly) of the people of Afghanistan a number of other state documents, which are in force since many years, have solved this issue from the real point of view. By referring to these documents you can find out that the folds of the homeland are open to all compatriots who due to various reasons live outside the country.

Stuart Lorry - CNN, USA: Why is it taking so long to rid the country of the counter-revolution?

Answer: It would have been better if you would have asked why confronting the undeclared war launched against our country, in which the counter-revolutionaries have been used as an instrument, has taken so long a time. The operations of the Washington administration embodied in the framework of this war is not a simple operation against our country.

It is sufficient to state here that the anti-Afghan operations of Washington, being intensified with the collaboration of its international and regional accomplices against the DRA, constitute the largest operation of the USA since the war against Vietnam. Washington alone has so far spend about 1.2 billion U.S. dollars, officially sanctioned by the US Senate and Congress, for financing the undeclared war against our young revolution.

This is not the sole source of financing the undeclared war against our country. Huge amounts of money and weapons have been earmarked by the US allies for the continuation and intensification of this war. I hope you could now understand what are the reasons lying behind the continuation of our struggle against the counter-revolutionary elements.

Polish journalist: What, in your opinion, would be the effect of the improvement of the world situation on the situation around Afghanistan? Please comment on the Geneva spirit.

Answer: In our view, the determining issues put forward in the Geneva talks are of special significance. The agreements reached at the talks on the prevention of any kind of military conflict between the USSR and the USA, both sides acceptence of not gaining military superiority over each other and the consolidation of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and the need for a complete ban on chemical weapons, have been warmly welcomed by the PDPA, the state and the people of DRA, we are fully convinced that the honest implementation of these decisions could improve the overall international situation and can deliver the planet from the danger of a nuclear holocaust.

The peaceloving people of the DRA, by supporting the principles of the peaceloving foreign policy of their party and state warmly applaud the efforts, including the outcomes of the Geneva talks, undertaken for the improvement of international situation and the prevention of the danger of war. But what is important in our view is the difference between works and deeds. The developments following the Geneva talks [words indistinct] demonstrate that the Reagan administration does not honestly pursue the concluded accords and even acts against the Geneva spirit, an approach which is in contradiction to the [words indistinct] of the peaceloving people of the world, the people of DRA, [words indistinct].

Obviously the improvement of the international situation has positive effects on the improvement of the global situation and the various regions of the world.

Polish journalist: Please comment on your plans for developing relations with the socialist countries, including Poland. What is the importance of your visit to Poland and your visit with Wojciech Jaruzelski?

Answer: With the victory of April Revolution and its new and revolutionary phase, the relations of the DRA with the countries of the fraternal socialist community, headed by the great Soviet

Union, has entered a new stage of fraternal [words indistinct] relations, that [words indistinct] relations be further expanding and consolidating in general interests of the peoples of our countries day by day.

Since the very beginning of the revolution, our country enjoyed the fraternal support of the Polish People's Republic. The relations of the DRA with the Polish People's Republic, based upon the principles of fraternal solidarity of the people, constantly develop in all spheres of social, political, economic and cultural fields in the interests of the peoples of the two countries and the cause of international peace and security.

In recent visit at the head of a high-level party and state delegation ot the fraternal country of Poland and our fruitful and constructive meetings with esteemed Comrade Jaruzelski and other party and state leaders of the Polish People's Republic is yet another significant step towards the [words indistinct] further expansion of friendly relations between our parties, governments and peoples.

Czechoslovak radio-TV correspondent: Please comment on the concrete achievements of the revolution regarding the social policies of your country inspite of the difficulties resulting from the undeclared war?

Answer: The main gains of the working people of Afghanistan, which were achieved towards carrying out profound changes in the society and ensuring national and social freedoms after the victory of the April Revolution, particularly its [words indistinct].

The establishment of the sovereignty of the toiling people and the formation of new political system in the country, ensuring the fundamental and democratic freedoms and rights of the people through the promulgation and enactment of new laws according to the needs of the society, among them the fundamental principles of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, [words indistinct] the local organs of state power and administration and the labour law.

The spectacular expansion of social and mass organisations, i.e., the trade unions, the Union of Peasants Co-operatives, Democratic Youth Organisation of Afghanistan, Women's Democratic Organisation of Afghanistan, the Unions of Artists, Poets, Writers and [words indistinct] the High Council of Scholars and Clergymen, the Council of Tribal Jirgas, the Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organisation of the DRA, the Jurists Association of the DRA. The formation of the [words indistinct]

The successful implementation of the democratic land and water reforms in the interest of the working peasants, the process of which continues on the implementation of the broad based national campaign (?against) illiteracy, through which about 1.2 million people have become literate. The establishment of universities and high vocational schools. The consolidation of state power in the villages, sub-districts and districts and the establishment of the local organs of state power and administration through universal and democratic elections. The construction of new economic prospects and the elevation of the agroindustrial products, the strengthening of state and mixed sectors in the national economy, twice raising the salaries and wages of workers and state employees, and tens of other achievements.

[Words indistinct] *AL-ANBA'*, Kuwait: Does the improvement of relations between China and the Soviet Union have brought [as received] a (?change) in the policies of China in connection to the difficulties of Afghanistan?

Answer: The improvement of relations between these two countries can have a positive effect in this regards. Regrettably no sign has been so far witnessed on the part of the Peking leadership to either abandon or revise their hostile policy against the DRA, cease their interference, and stop their assistance to the Afghan counter-revolutionaries.

On the contrary, China has stepped up its broad hostile campaign against our country. The Chinese-made weapons are widely used for arming the counter-revolutionary forces and the number of military training camps for the Afghan counter-revolutionaries, based on the Chinese territory in the vicinity of our borders is on the increase. The ever greater number of Chinese are being despatched to train the counter-revolutionaries in camps based in Pakistan.

Ahmad [words indistinct] *AL-WATAN*, Kuwait: What are the dimensions and forms of Israeli assistance to the enemies of Afghanistan?

Answer: Israel has a role in the undeclared war against Afghanistan and the campaign of interferences, intervention and devilish plots hatched against our country. This role [words indistinct] broader dimensions day by day. For instance, Israel along with Saudi Arabia and China have handed over (?20) million dollars to the Afghan counter-revolutionaries during the last year. The Israeli instructors teach the bandits the arts of murder, destruction and other criminal deeds in military training camps situated in Pakistan and equip them with lethal and sophisticated weapons. Making frequent visits to those camps, the authorities of Tel Aviv (?hold) talks with the gang-leaders of Afghan counter-revolution, further instigating them against our people and revolution by main interventionist and provocative (?expressions) and promising them ever further assistance.

To spread lies and accusations against the DRA and distort the essence of the fraternal aids of the Soviet Union and the truth of our revolution, Radio Israel broadcasts a daily programme in Dari [words indistinct].

Ahmad Nu'aman — *AL-WATAN*, Kuwait: What is your assessment of your relations with the Arab countries?

Answer: The DRA is in [words indistinct] of developing friendly relations with all the countries of the world, irrespective of their political and social systems, on the basis of the principles of peaceful co-existence, non-alignment, respect for national sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and non-interference in the internal affairs of each other. We are emphasizing on the development of relations with the (?fraternal) Islamic countries, including the Arabic ones and fortunately, we have got very close relations with a great number of these countries, among them Syria, Democratic Yemen, Libya and other progressive countries and forces. These countries are

defending our positions in international arena for which we are grateful.

Ahmad Nu'aman *AL-WATAN*, Kuwait: The opinion is expressed in Kuwait that Kuwait and other Arab countries (?could) exert pressure on America and Pakistan for the cessation of interferences in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. What is your opinion in this regards?

Answer: I think the Arabic countries who so desire can play a positive role in this regard. First of all those Arabic countries having unfortunately a common position with U.S. imperialism, (?Chinese) hemonism and militarists of Pakistan, in the undeclared war against our country, should do away with their participation in this imposed war against our people.

Ahmad Nu'amin, *AL-WATAN*, Kuwait: How do you evaluate Soviet initiative for the solution of the Middle East problem vis-a-vis American efforts to solve the question through the Camp David negotiations which is an unjust [words indistinct] in the interest of the Tel Aviv and Washington?

Answer: The interest of the Arab people of the Middle East and of international security demands the immediate, comprehensive, just and durable solution of the Middle East problems. This task can only be worked out and implemented through the joint efforts of the all the sides concerned.

Historical experience regarding the seeking of ways to solve the Middle East issue, clearly demonstrates that [words indistinct] aimed at imposing concessions on Arabs has not solved the problem. It has only encouraged Israel for further aggression against the Arab people.

The U.S.-type solution of the Middle East problem, based on the Camp David deal between Egypt and Israel, is a capitulatory way of solving the issue which contradict the interests of the people of the region. The correct and effective way of the solution of the Middle East problem based on facts and the just interests and wishes of the peoples of the region is the method of joint efforts with the participation of all concerned sides through the holding of an international conference on the Middle East problem.

Any durable peace in the Middle East should be based on the ensurance of the national rights of the Palestinian people including their right for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and the full and unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli military forces from all occupied Arab territories, taking into account the legitimate rights and interests of all the states in the region.

Musafer *AL-ANBA'*, Kuwait: What is your opinion concerning Arab countries as a whole and Gulf Arab countries in particular, in connection to the solution of the difficulties of Afghanistan?

Answer: Our country has broad historical ties with the Arab and the Gulf countries. We have always fully supported the struggle of the Arab peoples against colonialism, imperialism and Zionism. Our position is particularly clear to the just cause of the Arab people of Palestine. We support the ensurance of the right of the people of Palestine including the right to establish an independent Palestinian state and the withdrawal of Israeli occupationist forces from Arab lands. We regard the implementation of this as the only way of maintaining a just and durable peace in the Middle East.

Concerning the Gulf countries, it should be pointed out that these countries, having rich resources of oil, attracted the greedy attention of the imperialist monoplies. As a result the imperialists have posed a serious danger to the freedom, territorial integrity and independence of the Gulf countries under the guise of the so-called "regions of vital interest".

We consider the military presence of the imperialist countries as a [words indistinct] danger to regional peace and security. It should be added that the DRA supports the expansion of friendly relations and close cooperation with the Arab and Gulf countries. We have expanded our mutual relations with a number of Arab countries. Regrettably, there are a number of Arab and Gulf countries which despite the interest of the peoples of their [words indistinct] and security in the region and the world at large, have posed a serious threat to our country and peace and security in our region by following the footsteps of imperialism in the undeclared war against the DRA. I hope that these countries, paying attention to the dangers that their policies have posed to peace and security in our country and the region, (?shall) adopt a realistic and broad-minded approach towards the solution of the situation around Afghanistan stemming from the imperialist and reactionary interference in the internal affairs of our country.

Musafer, Kuwaiti journalist: What is you review and that of the government of the DRA with regard to the unity of the Muslim world?

Answer: As regards the unity of the Islamic countries, it should be stated that all the Islamic countries have [words indistinct] the better fruits of world colonial system, one way or the other. Today these countries are the target of the ominous schemes of imperialism and Zionism. These two satanic forces have created (?grave) danger to the security, independence and territorial integrity of the Islamic countries. Through various neo-colonialist methods, imperialism is striving to hamper the socio-economic development of these countries. Obviously, if the countries would be able to mobilize all their forces against the real enemies of the Muslim world, they will gain the support of the peace-loving humanity.

Musafer, Kuwait: How do you assess the role of the Gulf Cooperation Council in the Middle East and in the world as a whole?

Answer: We want a lasting peace and security in the Gulf region and the curtailment of any tension in this area. Furthermore, we have declared our support for the expansion of the friendly relations, economic and social and cultural ties between the neighbouring countries, the countries of the region and all the countries of the world. The continuation of the tension in the Gulf region has created serious danger to the security, territorial integrity and the independence of the countries of the region. Using various pretexts such as "the freedom of navigation" or the protection of its "vital interests", imperialism is expanding its military presence; this fact has created grave danger to the countries of the region. Therefore, the countries of the Gulf

region should exert all their efforts to solve the tension so they could curtail the interference of imperialist powers in their intenal affairs, should not resort to force in solving the conflicts and should struggle for the dismantling of foreign military bases.

In our view, these can also play an effective role in the realization of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine and the liberation of the Arab territories from the occupation of Israel Zionists.

Ahmad Nu'aman, Kuwait: What is your stance with regards to Iran-Iraq war?

Answer: The DRA sincerely supports an end to the conflicts between the two neighbouring Muslim countries, Iran and Iraq. The continuation of this senseless bloody war which has caused great human and material losses, is (?only to the) benefit of those imperialist countries who have started the war in order to find a pretext for their military presence, get the control of the sea and air routes, and the natural resources and prevent the independent development of the countries of the region. It is the sincere desire of the governmnet and the people of the DRA that this destructive fratricidal war between two neighbouring Muslim countries be ended as soon as possible.

Tom Higon - REUTER: Your party is unique among communist parties in being split into the Parcham and Khawqi factions. We hear reports of even physical fighting and shoot outs between the rival groups. Why is your party split like this and what are your doing to heal the rift?

Answer: First of all, it should be pointed out that the correct name of our party is the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, the party of the working class and all the working people of the country including, peasants, intellectuals, artisans and all the other strata of the society. Furthermore, the PDPA is a solidly united party with complete organizational, ideological cohesion and the unity of objectives. As a revolutionary vanguard it has the mission of leading Afghanistan towards the creation of a progressive society. The reports that you mentioned are falsifications, which are made by the propaganda machinery of Washington, Islamabad and other capitals of imperialist and reactionary countries against our party. Such fabrications have no basis what so ever.

Stuart Lorry - CNN, USA: How can a regime based on a belief in Marxism-Leninism lead a country that is strongly Islamic? How can you deal with the inherent contradiction?

Answer: The revolutionary system which has been established in our country, is a national and democratic system and has the goals realizing revolutionary transformations in the interest of the great masses of our country. In our opinion the high objectives of the April Revolution and the programme of actions of our party do not contradict the calls for justice and equality which [words indistinct] emphasized in the holy religion of Islam. We fully believe that true Islam is in full conformity with justice, prosperity and social progress which have been enshrined in the programme of action of the PDPA. The party and government of the DRA are indefatigably striving for its fulfilment. We see no contradiction between the programme of action of our party and the tenets of Islam on serving the people.

Tom Higon, REUTER: Thousands of Afghan children have been sent to the Soviet Union for education. Isn't there a danger that these children will return so influenced by the Soviet culture that they will be strangers in their homeland and therefore seen as strangers by most Afghans?

Answer: It should be stated that the revolutionary power attaches a great importance to the young generation of our country and for the education of the sons of our homeland. Not only grounds have been paved for the education of the youth in our country, but a number of them have been sent to advanced countries for education in different fields. Sending the youth to the developed countries for education has become an important task for the developing countries and all the developing countries are sending their youth to the various developed countries for education. We are confident that acquiring knowledge will never make our youth strangers to the valuable cultural heritage of our country.

It should be mentioned that the blossoming and progressive cultural revolution would have been far greater.

By growingly understanding the effective programmes of the revolutionary state in the construction of a new, just society, the people are taking all-sided and resolute part in the defence of the gains of the revolution and are foiling the plots and conspiracies of the enemies of the revolution, one after the other.

All the goals that we want to fulfill by our revolution have not been realized so far. The construction of a new and just society is not a short and easy process. Nevertheless, despite the undeclared war of reaction and imperialism, by the pursuance of the triumphant process of the revolution we are achieving new victories in the benefit of our country with every passing day.

In the view of our enemies, it would have been better if we would have not achieved all these victories in emancipating our society from the bondage of reaction and imperialism.

Elizabet Hidbourge - Sweden: Don't you ever doubt about winning the war? Even if it were won by your government, aren't you afraid of the deep scars it will leave in your country?

Answer: We could not see any reason to even doubt for a moment our final and decisive victory. Any basic change which is taking place in the society on the basis of the will of the masses is firm and undeniable. Having such a conviction I would like to once again explain that the National Democratic April Revolution has triumphed on the will of the absolute majority of the society for emancipating the country from centuries old backwardness and building a new just society. Therefore the revolution since its very triumph is dominant on our society and despite the plots and conspiracies of the counter-revolution have victoriously opened its path forward towards the materialization of the long cherished aspiration of our people.

As regard to the second part of your question it should be mentioned that naturally every war including the imperialist, hegemonist and reactionary undeclared war led by Washington administration against our country and revolution encompasses

losses and destruction. For your information, it should be said that the destruction to our economy so far emanating from this imposed war against our country, besides the human losses of our innocent people have reached the equivalent of more than afs. 36 billion. Despite that this war is wasting a great part of our human resources and imposes huge military expenditures on the economy of our country constitute the other side of the destruction stemming from this war. [sentence as received]

I would like to clearly declare that the undeclared war being increasingly intensified against our country, can only slow-down the process of the realization of the basic transformations in our country. The real organisers of this war are in no way able to quell the revolution in our society and to make our people retreat from the path that they have chosen.

Roberto Molina - Cuba: Cuba was a backward, Third World country like Afghanistan. Now it has been 27 years that socialism is being built in Cuba. What Cuban experience do you think would be useful for the Afghan revolution?

Answer: With the victory of the April Revolution, the DRA was placed in the ranks of genuinely independent, peaceloving and progressive countries of the world. In order to build a new and progressive society we are making use of the experience of these forces and the revolutionary countries, including heroic Cuba, with due considerations to the national, traditional and specific conditions of our people and society.

Karmal Cited on 'Limited Soviet Contingent'

LD310913 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Kabul, January 30, BAKHTAR — Answering a CNN TV correspondent of the United States, Babrak Karmal described the summit meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan constructive for improving the Soviet-U.S. relations, ameliorating the world political atmosphere as well as for the global peace and security but it should be said with regret that the words of the U.S. Administration does not match its deeds. General secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan was speaking at an extemporaneous press conference held in Kabul in which journalists from 14 countries [words indistinct] participated.

Babrak Karmal added that the position of the Soviet Union and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan vis-a-vis the situation around Afghanistan are exactly the same.

Babrak Karmal said that he had a meeting in Moscow with Mikhail Gorbachev when the latter was elected as general secretary of the CPSU CC. Talks are held on ensuring peace and security in the region, in Asia and in the world.

It should be said. Babrak Karmal continued to say, that views were exchanged on Afghanistan as well. Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev on behalf of the party, state and the people of the Soviet Union frankly stated that the peaceful people of the Soviet Union, its state led by the Communist Party of the Soviet Union are desirous of an Afghanistan to live under peaceful conditions. The leader of the Soviet Union wants an independent, free and non-aligned Afghanistan to be friendly with the Soviet Union as well as a democratic, progressive and advanced country, said Babrak Karmal.

Isn't it high time for the Soviet troops to return to their country taken into account the existing tranquillity in Afghanistan, asked a representative of PTI from India.

Replying to his question, Babrak Karmal said that in fact the U.S. Administration does not want the limited military contingents of the Soviet Union to return to their homeland. The United States should stop all its aggressive policy in the region.

Under the pretext of the so-called issue of Afghanistan the United States is misusing the situation for its intervention in Afghanistan against the Soviet Union, against the national and social liberation movements as well as for international terrorism.

I think, Babrak Karmal said, that the Afghan and Indian citizens understand better than anybody else that the militarisation of Pakistan is aimed at putting into effect the aggressive policies of the U.S. imperialism and Chinese hegemonism.

Sikh Convention Summoned to Discuss Temple Situation

BK301317 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] The head priest of the Akal Takht (highest seat of Sikh religion), Jathedar Kripal Singh, has summoned the Sarbat Khalsa [highest congregational assembly] to meet at the Takhtlin Amritsar on the 16th of next month. According to agency reports, the head priest in a press release in Amritsar today said that he took the decision after consulting his four other colleagues.

The consultations were made following the request of the general house meeting of the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh Temple Management] Committee at Anantpur Sahib on Tuesday. The Jathedar said the Sarbat Khalsa meeting will discuss the situation of hooliganism, fear, hatred and violence created by certain elements in the Golden Temple at the time of the launching of Kar Seva [voluntary service] at the Akal Takht on Sunday.

Sentencing Procedures Questioned in Gandhi Trial

BK301301 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] A writ petition by Kehar Singh and Balbir Singh, two of the three convicts sentenced death in the Indira Gandhi assassination case, came up before the Delhi high court today.

A division bench comprising Mr Justice R.N. Agarwal and Mr Justice Malik Sharifuddin observed that the trial court judgement failed to specify that the convicts be hangd by the neck till they are dead. They also said that it has not been stated that the sentence of death was subject to the confirmation by the high court.

The two judges said they would not like to express their final opinion now. All thee can be appropriately dealt with at the time of the appeals or when the reference comes up for the confirmation of the death sentence, they observed.

Further Details

HK300928 Hong Kong AFP in English 0854 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] New Delhi, Jan 30 (AFP) — A high court here today stayed the execution of two of the three Sikhs sentenced to death last week for the murder of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, saying the lower court judgement had loopholes, a court bulletin said.

Justice R.N. Agarwal and Justice Malik Sharif al-Din did notcancel the sentences but said they had decided to allow a stay of execution until correct legal procedures were followed.

In a preliminary hearing on appeals filed by two of the condemned men, the high court judges said that the lower court judge, Mahesh Chandra, had not specified how the death sentences were to be carried out. According to Indian penal laws, condemned prisoners are "hanged by the neck, until death." But Mr Chandra, while pronouncing his judgement on the three Sikhs on January 22 merely said "I sentence them to death." The high court judges also observed that Mr Chandra did not explain why he called the murder trial the "rarest of the rare cases" in support of his judgement.

The appeals to the higher court were moved by Kehar Singh and Balbir Singh, but not yet by the prime accused, Satwant Singh. But legal experts said the ruling would be applicable to all three Sikhs.

Mrs Gandhi was shot dead by two of her Sikh guards here on October 31, 1984. One of the guards, Beant Singh, was shot dead by Mrs Gandhi's loyal guards, but wounded Satwant Singh survived to face trial. The two other Sikhs were arrested and charged after reported confessions by Satwant Singh and federal investigations.

The lower court judgment also had not mentioned, as is normally done, that the death sentence be carried out only after confirmation by the higher courts, counsels for the two condemned men said. They argued that in the absence of such a directive, authorities could carry out the execution without confirmation of the higher court. But the court in its ruling today assured the counsels the sentence would not be carried out until its confirmation.

"It is thus clear that the sentence of death passed by the sessions judge can not be executed unless it is confirmed," the judges ruled. "The important question will arise as to what is the effect of these ommissions," the judges said. They said they "would like to express our final opinion on these contentions" and said they could "be gone into in details and appropriately dealt with at the time of the hearing of the appeals or when the reference comes up for the confirmation of the death sentences."

The next hearing is set for February 10, when counsels of the two sides — the state and the condemned men — are to argue the case. Both parties have the right to appeal to the Supreme Court after the high court judgement.

Junejo Speech Promotes Education, Democracy

BK301144 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Excerpts] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, has said that the government is determined to provide more and more educational facilities in the country to build a strong and stable nation based on its ideology. He was laying the foundation stone of the residential colony of the Allamah Iqbal Open University in Islamabad this morning. He said special attention is being given to enhance the literacy rate from 28 to 70 percent both in men and women. The students should also realize their responsibilities toward their parents, their government, and their nation as they are the future builders of the country. They should derive all benefits from the facilities provided to them and create an atmosphere conducive to their learning and should not take part in such activities which will not only hamper the government's efforts but their own future.

The prime minister said as far as literacy was concerned, the government will continue to give top priority to increase the literacy rate as he had expressed in his first address to the nation after the lifting of martial law. He regretted that after 38 years of the existence of Pakistan the literacy percentage was as low as 28. He had promised to the nation that whatever literacy was achieved in 38 years would be given in 5 years.

Later talking informally with the newsmen, the prime minister said that the government believes in complete democracy in the country and so in the freedom of expression. He said there is an elected government and we have allowed every responsible citizen of the country to express his feelings whatever he considers best in the interest of the nation. He said we have so far laid rules and procedures of politics and expect neat and clean politics.

Noorani on Maritime Boundary Demarcation with India

BK301553 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Excerpts] The National Assembly disposed of a number of adjournment motions today. The house adopted for discussion an adjournment motion regarding the recent bomb explosion at the Pakistan International Airlines Office in Peshawar.

Sheikh Rashid sought to move an adjournment motion regarding oil exploration by India near the Pakistani coast. Speaking on the motion, the minister of state for foreign affairs, Zain Noorani, said the maritime boundary in the area concerned has not been demarcated. However, under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, Pakistan and India have agreed to demarcate maritime limits.

The Pakistan Government has accepted India's proposal for initiating negotiations in this regard, but the demarcation of the maritime boundary must be preceded by demarcation of the territorial boundary. He said that work on the limitation of the territorial limits in a sector of the Rann of the Kutch area still remains to be done. A meeting of the surveyors general of the two countries is to be held in next few weeks. The mover did not press his motion after this statement.

JANG Comments on Security After Martial Law

GF301632 Lahore JANG in Urdu 25 Jan 86 p 3

[Editorial: "The Problem of Security and the Incidents of Sabotage"]

[Text] Breach of peace and incidents of sabotage used to happen during the martial law era also, and some of these incidents were very serious. However, the incidents of sabotage which have occurred in various parts of the country since the lifting of martial law have become a cause for serious concern of patriotic elements and people of sound judgement in the country.

Two persons were killed in a bomb explosion at a mosque in the Mohmand Agency one day before the dreadful bomb explosion at the office of Pakistan International Airways [PIA] in Peshawar, which caused widespread damage and significant loss of life. Such incidents have taken place in the past as well, but the bomb explosion in the PIA office is a very serious incident. According to some reports, 15 persons were killed and 23 injured in this explosion. Among the injured was the son of the governor of NWFP [North-West Frontier Province]. This was the third incident over the past 3 days to also cause considerable financial loss.

In addition to the PIA office, the offices of the NWFP Development Department and the United Bank were also totally destroyed in this explosion. Responding to a correspondent's question, the NWFP Chief Minister Arbab Muhammad Jahangir stated that in view of these explosions, there is now a danger to the lives of the Cabinet ministers as well. This shows how serious the situation has become.

In addition to the incidents in NWFP, there have been very alarming incidents in Sind Province, including the kidnapping of government officials and citizens, murder, and major thefts. A superintendent of the police intelligence department and a colleague of his were kidnapped in broad daylight in Sind. The police and related departments have as yet been unable to trace the whereabouts of the kidnapped officials. Four police constables were kidnapped in Nwabshah — two of them were killed. Not a single arrest has been made thus far in these cases.

Three jewelry shops and two boutiques were robbed in Karachi recently, but no culprit has been traced. Fifteen persons were kidnapped from a village in Daud. A few days earlier a police official and two landlords were released by kidnappers after receiving ransom. A further report states that 15 persons were secretly murdered in a settlement along Chundrigarh road in Karachi; news of it came several days later. No arrest has been made in this case either.

It is quite possible that some of the murders and kidnappings may have occurred due to local enmities, but the incidents of theft, kidnapping of government officials, and the bomb explosions are certainly due to the activities of saboteurs. These incidents create problems of law and order.

The country is full of unlicensed arms; this too is a matter of concern for peace-loving citizens. A report indicates that in Punjab Province alone, 200,000 arms licenses were issued over

the past 9 months. Once can only guess the number of licenses issued in other provinces. In NWFP arms are being manufactured locally and widespread arms smuggling takes place in this province via Afghanistan. The Khyber Agency operation has created a problem of law and order in tribal areas. These problems were not created by political parties or by antigovernment politicians.

The government surely is aware of these things and it must be considering the ways and means to safeguard the lives and property of the general public and combat incidents that breach law and order. The government must have been aware that saboteurs would go all out to create unrest in the country as soon as martial law was lifted. The government must have been aware of the infiltration of hostile elements from across the border from Afghanistan. Similarly, the regime must have been aware of acts of vandalism which occurred in the Sind government in the name of the MRD movement.

It seems that some agents of foreign powers have become active trying to force Pakistan to accept a solution to the Afghanistan problem for their benefit and to negate the steps taken by the regime to restore democracy in the country. It is the primary duty of the government to step up its efforts to maintain law and order in the country. The law enforcement authorities should also be alerted in this connection. Patriotic elements in the country are also dutybound to cooperate fully with the government.

The government should look into the demands of the opposition parties and should not delay holding dialogue with the leaders of these parties. These days it is the responsibility of the government, opposition parties, and the politicians to save the country from internal unrest and sabotage calamities. Political parties should do nothing at this stage to strengthen the hands of the saboteurs or anything which may encourage them because internal unrest in a country paves the way for the external enemies to gain their ends. The government should also look into the unrest which exists in several educational institutions and among students. This restlessness is a part of the overall agitation in the country.

In view of the sensitivity of the situation, we trust that the government will lose no time in fulfilling its responsibilities, in safeguarding lives and property of the general public, and in saving the country from any disorder and disturbance.

Meanwhile, the Action Committee for the Protection of the Rights of the Citizens of Peshawar has announced that there will be a general strike on Saturday to express its sorrow and distress over explosion on the premises of the PIA office in Peshawar. It has also demanded the removal of Afghan refugees to the outskirts of the city and the restriction of their movement to within the refugee camp areas. The government has already been urging the refugees to remain within their camp areas, but no one has paid any attention. Afghan refugees live in various cities of Pakistan. There is also the possibility that the Afghan saboteurs have entered Pakistan in the garb of refugees. It is therefore necessary for the government to make them remain within their alloted area.

Under the present circumstances there is a danger of a clash between the refugees and the local inhabitants which might create a new problem. The government has already arrested a number of Afghan saboteurs who had infiltrated into Pakistan in the garb of refugees. The Peshawar citizens are, therefore, justified in demanding that those refugees now living within the city should be removed to their camps. The same principle should be adopted in other cities also so that the possibility of a clash between the locals and the refugees is reduced to the minimum.

Attempt To Smuggle Missiles into Kurram Agency Foiled
BK310244 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Kurram Agency soldiers have foiled an attempt to smuggle into Pakistan 10 multi-barrel missiles [3 preceding words in English as heard] intended for sabotage activities. The political agent of Kurram Agency awarded cash prizes to the soldiers who participated in this activity which occurred about 10 miles away from Parachinar.

Afghan Mujahidin Shoot Down MiG, Helicopters
BK310624 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say mujahidin shot down two combat helicopters and a MiG plane and damaged a tank in clashes with Soviet-Karmal forces in Jalalabad and Arghastan.

BANGLADESH

Opposition Parties Demonstrate Against Martial Law

BK310427 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] In Bangladesh, main opposition parties staged demonstrations in Dhaka yesterday as part of their campaign to end martial rule and restore democracy. About 10,000 people marched through the streets of Dhaka raising slogans against the 4-year-old military rule.

MALDIVES

UAE Paper: President Hails Relations With Arabs

GF301932 Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 30 Jan (WAKH) — President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom of Maldives hailed the close ties linking his country to the Arab and Islamic worlds in general and the Arab Gulf states in particular. He noted such relations date back eight centuries before the spread of Islam in the Maldives Islands.

In an interview with UAE *AL-ITTIHAD* newspaper today, the president expressed his appreciation for the Arab aid that has contributed in developing his country. "The UAE has contributed in establishing the international airport in Maldives and is contributing in other projects related to fishery, wealth and tourism," he added.

President Gayoom reiterated his country's support and solidarity with the Palestinian cause saying it has been "made clear in all international forums including the UN, the non-aligned conference and the Islamic Conference Organisation". He also expressed regret over the deteriorating Arab and Muslim situation and called for the restoration of the "glory of Islam."

SRI LANKA

Jayewardene Seeks Military Solution to Terrorism

BK301113 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] President J.R. Jayewardene has told the Indian high commissioner in Sri Lanka, J.N. Dixit, that he would seek a military solution to terrorism and a political solution to the ethnic problem.

The statement was made to the high commissioner when he met President Jayewardene on Monday to convey the Indian government's concern over Mr Jayewardene's comment to the special correspondent, Kuldip Nayar, of Sri Lanka's English-language daily *THE ISLAND*.

President Jayewardene is reported to have told Mr Nayar in an interview that he shall have a military solution to what he believed is a military problem. After doing so, he has said, he would tackle the political side.

Government Responds to TULF Proposals on Ethnic Issue

BK311244 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Sri Lanka has conveyed its response to the proposal of the Tamil United Liberation Front for a negotiated settlement of the ethnic problem to the Government of India. Our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumdar, understands that this may help the foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, to exchange views with the Tamil groups before he reaches Colombo on Monday for talks with the Sri Lankan leaders.

Further Reportage on Curfew in Plantation Areas

HK300526 Hong Kong AFP in English 0449 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Excerpts] Colombo, Jan 30 (AFP) — A 36-hour curfew clamped on violence-hit tea plantation areas is to be extended until Friday, a minister said today as reports spoke of two dead in the communal troubles. National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said that the curfew which ended at 7 am today was to be reimposed after a three-hour break and was likely to continue till 7 am Friday.

The government will not lift the curfew until it is certain that violance sparked off by a personal quarrel Monday in Talawakelle, in the hill country plantations area, had subsided, he told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

Tea estate workers killed a policeman yesterday at Agrapatana, another plantation town, Mr. Athulathmudali said. The policeman was the second reported fatality in three days of violence which spread to several plantation areas as a quarrel between a Sinhala shop owner and an Indian Tamil customer blew up into communal clashes.

Mr Athulathmudali met with representatives of plantation trade unions, management and other state officials yesterday to find ways to end the violence which also caused at least 25,000 workers to stay away from plucking tea and other estates duties.

Meanwhile, Paraliament here was today due to begin debate on a special bill to give Sri Lankan citizenship to an additional 94,000 Indian Tamil plantation workers now regarded as stateless as they did not volunteer to return to India under two agreements between the neighbouring states. Under these agreements Sri Lanka has already agreed to absorb 375,000 persons.

President Junius Jayewardene said yesterday that the constitutional court had found that the bill did not violate the Constitution. The bill is opposed by some opposition parties and sections of the Buddhist clergy.

Security Forces Capture Weapons in Tricomalee

BK301108 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] In a highly successful operation which commenced at dawn yesterday at Sambur in Tricomalee in the northeast,

security forces captured a valuable haul of weapons and other military items from the terrorists. The (?land-based) raid on the terrorists was in retaliation for several acts of violence committed by the terrorists.

Reports say that a shootout had taken place between the security forces and the terrorists.

A Sinhalese member of the terrorist group, the People's Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam, known by the name of Udubaragay Henry Perera, who escaped from prison a few weeks ago, was captured by the police yesterday. According to LANKA PUWATH, the suspect told the police that he had planned to go to Jaffna by train yesterday and proceed to Tamil Nadu by boat with the help of the northern terrorists. He was arrested on a tip-off received by the National Bureau of Investigation.

Friday Imam Urges OPEC Unity To Defeat U.S. 'Plot'

LD311211 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] On the eve of Yum Allah [God's Day], the anniversary of the imam of the ummah's return to the Islamic homeland 1 February 1979, and the start of the 10 Days of Dawn, our Muslim compatriots throughout the country observed the politico-religious Friday prayers ceremonies today.

The citizens of Tehran, who filled Tehran University compound and surrounding thoroughfares, performed the Friday prayers under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Emami-Kashani, in the presence of foreign guests to the 10 Days of Dawn, the ad-interim Tehran Friday imam referred to the anniversary of the return of the imam of the ummah to the country as the prelude to the victory of the Islamic revolution. He said: It is thanks to the imam's firm faith, his reliance upon God, and the people's courage and self-sacrifice that today we see God's blessings bestowed upon us.

He then referred to the new conspiracy hatched by superpowers and their agents in bringing down oil prices, and said: In order to neutralize this conspiracy, OPEC members and other oil-exporting countries should respond positively to the Islamic Republic's call, maintain stable oil prices and, by stabilizing the production ceiling, confront the Western plot, led by world-devouring America. If these countries resist they can rest assured that Western world devourers will be defeated. This will not be achieved except through cooperation and coordination among OPEC members.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Emami-Kashani stressed: If America and other world devourers imagine that the conspiracy can have any impact on the issue of the war imposed on Iran by Iraq, they are gravely mistaken. The youngsters who are going to the battlefronts with such enthusiasm and ardor will not be frightened by a reduction in oil prices, just as economic problems and difficulties have no influence on them. That conspiracy is, therefore, a satanic and cunning plot, and at the same time, amateurish.

In conclusion, the ad-interim Tehran Friday imam paid tribute to Mirza Shirazi on the anniversary of his death for the distinguished clergyman's endeavors.

Larijani Begins Tour of Oil-Producing Countries

LD301803 Tehran IRNA in English 1415 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 30, IRNA — Deputy Foreign Minister in charge of international and commercial affairs Javad Larijani Thursday started a tour of Libya, Algeria, Venezuela and Mexico. Following the recent oil price cuts and to discuss other OPEC issues, Iran has decided to despatch delegations to a number of oil producing countries.

The deputy foreign minister is carrying separate messages from President "Ali Khamene'i for the four heads of state.

Larijani in his meeting with officials of these countries will outline Iran's stance on needs for further unity among OPEC members and will encourage them to cut their oil production to foil plots to reduce the oil prices.

Further Reportage on Islamic Thought Conference

Fadlallah, Others Address Meeting

LD301847 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] On the 2d day of the fourth Islamic Thought Conference, held in Tehran and attended by 530 Islamic thinkers and intellectuals, Hojjat ol-Eslam Ja'far Sobhani in a speech discussed legislation under Islamic government and conditions for legislation under Islam.

Then, Hojjat ol-Eslam Sayid Muhammad Bakr al-Hakim, chairman of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq [SAIRI], said that explaining the foundations of Islamic government to world Muslims and exchanging views and ideas by Islamic ulema is of tremendous importance.

He added: Iran's Islamic revolution ever since its victory has been attacked by the arrogant forces. However, Muslims and meek nations have riveted their eyes on Iran's Islamic revolution, as indeed Iran's Islamic revolution constitutes the hope of the deprived nations of the world.

According to a Central News Unit correspondent's report, Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, Friday imam of Al-Rida Mosque in Beirut was the third speaker. Referring to the roots of power in Islamic government he said: We consider Islam's power as lying in its ability to confront deviant intellectual trends. We have faith in eternal divine power and believe that existing problems and obstacles to the path of disseminating Islamic thoughts could be solved through reliance on God.

Continuing today's session Jawad Jamil, the Iraqi poet, recited a poetic excerpt likening the struggles of Iraqi Mojahedin against the Saddam regime to those of Bani Hashim [the Prophet's family and scions].

Then SAIRI spokesman Sayid Mahmud al-Hashimi, the fourth speaker, spoke on government in accordance with the Islamic Shari'a.

The fifth speaker during this morning's session was Professor Munir Shafiq, director of the center that plans and reviews Palestinian affairs, who spoke about Islamic government and the manner in which that government deals with Muslims.

During today's session the establishment of three committees for working out the articles of the conference resolution was announced by Mr Jannati, conference chairman. The committee members were then introduced. According to this report, in the first committee the members would debate and study the issues of Islamic government and the problem of leadership, the tasks and aims of Islamic government and its administrative organization, the nation's role in an Islamic government and the sources

of power in Islamic government. The second committee would consider the unity of Islamic government in Islamic territories or the possibility of a plurality in such a government, the manner of legislation in Islamic government and Iran's Islamic government as constituting the present reality of the Islamic world. The third committee would deal with political issues aimed at drafting the resolution of the fourth Conference on Islamic Thought.

Lebanon's Shams al-Din Comments on Israeli Aims

LD302201 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text]Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, deputy speaker of the Supreme Assembly of Lebanese Shi'ites, who is in Tehran to take part in the international Conference on Islamic Thought, gave a press, radio, and television conference in which he answered questions put to him by correspondents.

In reply to a question about Israel's purpose in its sporadic attacks against southern Lebanon, he said: Israel's attacks are not limited to southern Lebanon. It attacks all of Lebanon and Lebanon is part of the region as a whole. Therefore, Israel's purpose is to create tension in the region and to disrupt people's unity in order to make them surrender. He added: Israel has been seriously following other objectives including political and economic domination, dividing Lebanon to various groups such as Sunnis, Shi'ites, Druze, and controlling the Al-Litani River. Shaykh Shams al-Din added: Another dangerous aim pursued by Israel is to create a balance between Muslims and Christians by killing and expelling Muslims from Lebanon.

Commenting on the present regime in Lebanon, he said: The present regime will not last long, that is why we would like this imposed regime to be dismantled and to be replaced by another based on majority vote.

Commentary Views Murphy's Talks With Peres, Husayn

GF301955 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 28 Jan 86

[Unattributed commentary: "The United States Is After a Second Camp David"]

[Excerpt] Dear listeners. After a long period of time, the United States has again taken up the question of peace in the Middle East and seeks to achieve a second Camp David agreement with the participation of King Husayn of Jordan. As part of the new instructions, Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, met Prime Minister Shim'on Peres in the Hague and London four times on the question of the so-called Middle East peace. He also met King Husayn in London twice on the same matter.

Replying to questions put to him by a BBC television correspondent after one of his long talks with Richard Murphy, Prime Minister Peres said important progress had been achieved through Richard Murphy's mediation for direct talks with King Husayn. Observers watching Middle East developments, however, believe that the approach made once again on the question of peace in the Middle East by the United States and the Zionist Israeli regime is linked with a number of objectives. A number of these objectives are as follows:

1. The broadening of the sphere of the Camp David accords and the rescuing of the shaken Husni Mubarak regime from its difficult situation and isolation by persuading King Husayn to hold direct talks with Israel;
2. Rendering ineffective the results of the talks King Husayn has had with the other Jordanian leaders whom he assured he would not hold direct talks with the Tel Aviv regime;
3. Diverting world attention from the silent stance adopted by the Arab regimes, which are dependent on the United States, concerning the question of diplomatic relations between Spain and the aggressive Zionist Israeli regime, the vetoing of the declaration submitted to the UN Security Council on Zionist aggression against southern Lebanon by the U.S. representative, and the Zionist sacrilege committed against the sacred places in Jerusalem and Hebron.

Observers believe that in the event the United States succeeds in achieving its objectives, the [words indistinct] and the joint strategy pursued by Washington and Israel to create divisions and clashes among the Arabs to obstruct a united Arab front against Israel would further approach the point of success.

New Envoy Holds Meeting with French Foreign Minister

LD302131 Tehran IRNA in English 1813 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] Paris, Jan, 30, IRNA — Iran's new charge d'affaires to Paris Gholam Reza Haddadi Wednesday discussed bilateral relations as well as Iran-France financial disputes, with French Minister for External Relations Ronald Dumas here.

The main difference between the two countries is a one billion dollar loan granted to France by the former regime. France has so far refused to pay back the loan. Observers believe that the French Government intends to solve the problem quickly and improve its relations with Iran. Jacques Martin, the French envoy who visited Iran early January has been assigned to solve the problem.

An Iranian delegation from Atomic Energy Organization is to visit France in a near future to continue negotiations on this matter.

France's military aid to the Iraqi regime and its sheltering of counterrevolutionary Iranians are among other factors straining Tehran-Paris relations.

Kurds Attack Iraqi Posts Following Comrades' Deaths

LD301359 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, following the Iraqi regime's execution of 52 Muslims in Mosul accused of Islamic activities and of refusing to go to the warfronts to fight against the Islamic Republic of Iran, groups of Kurdish Muslim revolutionaries simultaneously attacked three Iraqi military

bases in the city of Mosul, delivering heavy blows at the bases and succeeding in capturing large quantities of arms.

Reports reaching the Central News Unit say that another group of Kurdish Muslim revolutionaries, in an attack on Ahmadabad garrison in northern Iraq, inflicted heavy losses on the forces of the Iraqi regime, following which agents of the Saddam rgime closed the Shurnah highway in the Khurmal region and opened fire on the traffic. One person was martyred and a number of others were captured.

Another group of Kurdish Muslim fighters, by attacking 'Agrah military garrison, killed five troops of the Iraqi regime and then returned safely to their bases.

The Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq [SAIRI] announced: Despite large-scale efforts by the Saddam regime aimed at controlling the situation in northern Iraq and intensifying the suppression and intimidation of Muslims, the regions concerned remain an arena for increasing desertions by the Iraqi military who seek asylum with the Kurdish Muslim forces.

According to the same report, pressure on and the encirclement of the cities of Qarah Dagh, (Shahr-i Zor) and (Bizan) continue.

Irbil Area Attacked

GF310752 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] The Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq [SAIRI] has reported that on 28 January the Muslim Iraqi Kurdish fighters used heavy weapons to attack positions of the Ba'thist forces in the strategic areas of (Marjsur) and (Qalandar) mountain in the Governorate of Irbil. They destroyed some Saddamist positions and killed several Saddamists.

In these operations the Iraqi Kurdish fighters succeeded in exercising control over two strategic positions and also captured two mountain positions.

The commander of the successful operation, Wadi' Salih, was martyred while carrying out his combat duties.

Islamic Guards Corp To Hold War Game

LD301729 Tehran IRNA in English 1650 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 30, IRNA — Forty divisions of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) and Basij volunteer forces will carry out a war game throughout Tehran Province on the occasion of the ten-day-dawn (Feb. 1-11), marking the seventh anniversary of the victory of the Islamic Revolution.

Speaking at a press conference here Thursday, an IRGC commander, Br. Ansari said the maneuvers aimed at demonstrating the combat strength of the Islamic Revolution and to display the presence of the organized popular forces in the scene of the revolution. The IRGC commander also referred to the maneuvers as a means of encouragement for the Iranian people and of intimidation for global arrogance.

He said other programs to be held by the IRGC personnel and Basij volunteer forces on the occasion will include a cultural-sports festival, climbing the 57,00-meter Damavand Peak, exhibition at Behesht-e-Zahra Cemetery and a shooting contest.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,366

LD301632 Tehran IRNA in English 1450 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan 30, IRNA — Iran's Muslim combatants despatched reconnaissance patrols and pounded Iraqi positions in the western and southern fronts Wednesday, killing or wounding at least 25 Iraqi soldiers and demolishing 10 gun emplacements, according to the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here Thursday.

In its Communique number 2366, the command says that Iranian artillery fire on Iraqi positions in the northwestern fronts Wednesday killed or wounded a number of Iraqi soldiers and destroyed several of their bunkers as well as light and heavy vehicles. Their artillery fire too was silenced by Iranian combatants.

All aerial violations of Iraqi war planes throughout the fronts Wednesday were thwarted by Iranian anti-aircraft units, according to the military communique.

The communique says Iranian Muslim forces checked movements of Iraqi vehicles as well as other Iraqi engineering and combat operations throughout the fronts Wednesday, minimizing their facilities and preventing their tactical movements.

Iranian artillery fire pounded an Iraqi patrol unit in areas overlooking Khorramshahr Wednesday forcing them to flee, reports the joint staff.

Meanwhile, Iraqi forces continued shelling the cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr, both in Khuzestan Province Wednesday.

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Jordan-PLO

Jordan informed Washington of its "great disappointment and indignation" over the U.S. decision to postpone indefinitely an arms deal with Jordan, Radio Monte Carlo reported. The Jordanian ambassador to Washington told the radio that Jordan was surprised by the U.S. unwillingness to defend the deal in spite of "explicit promises" to provide weapons, adding that Jordan will use "all means and methods" to obtain the weapons "from any source."

Meanwhile, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev invited King Husayn to Moscow, AFP disclosed citing Jordanian sources. The king will hold talks with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak in Cairo "at the beginning of next week," MENA reported citing the 31 January edition of Egypt's *AKHBAR AL-YAWM*. Mubarak and Husayn are to discuss the "remaining obstacles" to PLO participation in an international peace conference, the report added. In another development, Syrian President Hafiz al-asad is expected to visit jordan this week, Jordanian sources told the UAE's *AL-BAYAN*, according to QNA.

In Amman, a senior Jordanian official blamed the deadlock in the Jordanian-PLO talks on the U.S. insistence that the PLO accept UN Resolutions 242 and 338 without a U.S. endorsement of Palestinian self-determination, the *JORDAN TIMES* reported. PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat earlier informed King Husayn that he has "totally and finally" refused to recognize the resolutions, a Palestinian source told AFP. 'Arafat had been encouraged to reject the resolutions by the USSR in exchange for a Soviet promise to work toward reconciling Palestinian factions, an Arab diplomatic source in Amman had previously told Radio Monte Carlo. AFP also cited Jordanian sources as saying that Jordan is not considering establishing a joint delegation for peace talks that would include non-PLO Palestinians and is continuing to refuse to hold separate negotiations with Israel.

Israel

The assessment in Jerusalem is that prospects for an early breakthrough to peace negotiations with Jordan have receded following Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' talks in europe with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, *THE JERUSALEM POST* reported 3 February. At the 2 February cabinet meeting, Peres proposed that political discussion on the peace process be delayed until it becomes clear what Jordan and Syria want, Jerusalem radio disclosed. As for relations with Egypt, IDF radio announced that the Inner Cabinet will convene shortly to discuss the forthcoming visit to Cairo by israeli Officials Avraham Tamir and David Kimche. Tamir had told Peres of the need for such a discussion to define the team's authority and avoid internal disputes during or after the negotiations, the radio noted.

Egypt

President Husni Mubarak lambasted "irresponsible behavior" by "the advocates of lies and agitation" during a 2 February speech broadcast by Cairo radio, asserting that recent "deviations and violations" have become a great danger to progress. He denied rumors of impending changes in the role of the public and private sectors and dismissed allegations that the prime minister's illness is "political."

PDRY

Acting PDRY chairman Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas commented on relations with the United States during a 31 January news conference reported by Aden radio, stating that the PDRY will welcome relations with the United States if and when the latter "respects its relations with our peoples, respects our sovereignty and independence, and adopts a just stand regarding our causes." As for the Gulf states, he said the PDRY will act to continue to normalize relations with Oman and to develop its relations with Saudi Arabia and the other GCC countries. In another development, PDRY agricultural officials met the economic counsellor at the Soviet Embassy 1 February to discuss economic issues including the return of Soviet agricultural experts, according to Aden radio.

On the military situation, a DFLP official in Aden said the situation is "stable" throughout the PDRY, disclosing that Abyan Governorate fell to forces of the new government without heavy fighting, the UAE's *AL-KHALIJ* reported.

Libya

The end of the U.S. maneuvers off the Libyan coast demonstrates "the failure of the U.S. policy of force and arrogance" and confirms the libyan people's "mastery" over the Gulf of Sidra, JANA's political commentator asserted. As for the U.S. economic measures, voice of Greater Arab Homeland Radio reported that Polish companies have expressed readiness to replace U.S. companies that decide to withdraw from Libya.

Meanwhile, delegations arrived in Tripoli over the weekend to attend forthcoming meetings of the "Pan-Arab command for leading the revolutionary forces in the Arab homeland," according to JANA. Those arriving included Syrian Ba'th Party assistant Secretary General 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, PFLP leader George Habash, PFLP-GC leader Ahmad Jibril, and Fatah "Provisional command" chief Colonel Sa'id Musa.

Lebanon

Nabih Birri, Walid Junblatt, and Elie Hubayqah discussed developments since the signing of the tripartite agreement during a 2 February meeting with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim

Khaddam in Damascus, Beirut radio reported. The results of Khaddam's talks with the delegation of independent Maronite deputies the previous day were also reviewed. Butrus Harb, one of the Maronite deputies who met with Khaddam, stated in remarks reported by Voice of Lebanon radio that the Syrians do not favor a military solution and seek to promote dialogue and reconciliation.

As for the security situation, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio claimed that two explosions in East Beirut 2 February were directed against Phalangist Party centers. Reports by Voice of Lebanon radio, however, linked the explosions to a dispute between rival Armenian factions. In West Beirut, the Amal Movement and the Palestine National Salvation Front agreed on a plan to restore peace at the Shatila camp, where 12 people were killed and about 40 were wounded in recent Amal-Palestinian fighting, according to AFP. In a related development, the Voice of Lebanon reported that a military adviser to Yasir 'Arafat has arrived in Beirut to hold talks with Palestinian officials on ways to strengthen the Palestinian military position.

Meanwhile, two hitherto unknown groups — the "Green Brigades" and the "Fighting Revolutionary Cells" — claimed responsibility for kidnapping a South Korean diplomat in West Beirut 31 January, AFP disclosed.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes attacked Khark Island and a large maritime target near the Iranian coast, hit the Ganaveh oil pipeline intersection, and flew 224 combat missions 2 February, according to Iraqi military statements broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. An Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA denied an Iranian claim that Iraq had fired chemical bombs into the Khorramshahr area. Meanwhile, the Iranian Oil Ministry denied an Iraqi claim that the Khark Island oil installations have been destroyed, maintaining that Iran's decision to halve its oil exports was made "solely to defend the price of oil," IRNA reported.

Iran-USSR

USSR First Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Korniyenko and acting Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati discussed ways to expand the two countries' relations in a meeting in Tehran 2 February, IRNA reported. Korniyenko had arrived earlier the same day and met with Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh, the report added. IRNA said Soviet-Iranian economic relations are presently good, noting that the possibility of Iran resuming natural gas exports to the USSR was expected to be raised in the discussions.

Sudan

Sudan and Ethiopia have agreed to formulate a joint strategy aimed at resolving bilateral problems through dialogue, Foreign Minister Ibrahim Taha Ayyub announced 30 January in remarks reported by SUNA. He linked this development with Sudanese leader General Siwar al-Dhahab's recent meeting with Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam in Djibouti, noting that their talks focused on the problems of southern Sudan and Eritrea. Sudan considers Eritrea an indivisible part of Ethiopia, Ayyub added, and it rejects the Eritrean separatist movement.

As for relations with the new regime in Uganda, Foreign Minister Ayyub said Sudan will not permit former Ugandan leader General Tito Okello to use Sudanese territory as a base for activity against the government in Kampala. Okello had arrived in southern Sudan 29 January, according to SUNA.

In an internal development, SUNA reported that 16 people were killed and 83 others were injured in armed clashes between rival tribes in the Port Sudan area over the weekend.

Tunisia

The pro-government faction of the Tunisian General Labor Federation (UGTT) is currently occupying all UGTT offices, Paris radio disclosed 1 February. Tunis radio reported earlier that the UGTT "administrative committee" met at the UGTT headquarters in Tunis 29 January and decided to withdraw recognition of the UGTT Executive Bureau.

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Keshtmand Addresses Hazara Central Committee

LD030641 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0448 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] Kabul, February 2, BAKHTAR — Equality of rights of nationalities and tribes of Afghanistan are guaranteed by the principles policy of the party and state of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. This was said by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA at the periodic session of the Central Council of the Hazara nationality.

At the session, the message of the Central Council of the Hazara nationality addressed to the emigre Afghans abroad was read out by Muhammad Hashem 'Alam, member of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA and member of the Executive Committee of the Central Council of the Hazara nationality.

The message says that the deceived Afghans, where ever they are, should return to the homeland. The emigre Afghans should not be further deceived by the spiteful propaganda of imperialists and their accomplices.

Another message of solidarity of the Central Council of the Hazara nationality addressed to Afridi and Shenwari tribes was read out at the session by Shah 'Ali Akbar Shahrestani, member of the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA and member of the Central Council of the Hazara nationality.

The message points to the inseparable link of the people of Afghanistan with the free tribes and appreciates their approach vis-a-vis the poisonous propaganda of Pakistan against Afghanistan.

The ever further solidarity of the Hazara nationality with the free tribes, which are subjected to the agression of Pakistani forces has been reiterated in the message and it strongly condemns the incursion of the military forces of Pakistan on the tribes.

Najibullah, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA CC, Sulayman La'eq alternate member of the Politburo of the PDPA CC and minister of tribal affairs and nationalities of the DRA and Abdorrahim Hatef, president of the Central Council of the National Fatherland Front of the DRA also attended the session.

Special Court Passes Death Sentence on 2 Rebels

LD301833 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] A judicial delegation of the DRA Special Revolutionary Court in open trial recently, which was attended by a number of Kabul city citizens, sentenced to death and various terms of imprisonment a number of professional criminals belonging to the counterrevolutionary bands. In addition to engaging in dozens of anti-Islamic and anti-human shameless actions, these criminals have caused great loss of life and material as a result of firing ground-to-ground missiles at Qala-e Zaman Khan and some other parts of Kabul city.

These professional murderers who, in collaboration with reactionary and imperialist forces, exchange their homeland, conscience and culture for money, are: Janat Gol, Son of Wazi Ahmad, the inhabitant of Chaharasiab; Gol Agha, son of Haji Nawroz, known as Muhammad Taher; and Muhammad Yasin and Abdol Qodus, sons of Wali Muhammad.

A BIA correspondent reports that after the prosecutor read out the accusations filed against the accused, the court judicial delegation asked the accused to defend themselves in a free and democratic atmosphere. After hearing the prosecutor's charges and the defense of the accused, the judicial delegation of the Special Revolutionary Court, in accordance with the evidence of the crimes and confessions of the accused and in accordance with the norms of democratic and revolutionary legality, issued the following sentences:

Janat Gol, a member of Harakat-e Eslami and Abdul Qodus, a member of the Nejat-e Milli, who, at the time of committing the crime, had not reached the legal age, were each sentenced to 15 years in prison as from the time of their detention in accordance with Articles 175 and 84 of the Penal Code. Also, Muhammad Taher, known as Gol Agha, a member of the Jamiyat band and Muhammad Yasin, a member of Nejat-e Milli, who were directly involved in firing ground-to-ground rockets against the innocent defenseless people of Qala-e Zaman Khan, were sentenced to death. The decision of the court concerning the latter two persons will be implemented after the approval of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium in accordance with the instructions of Article 48 of the DRA Basic Principles. The court decision concerning the other two persons sentenced to imprisonment is final in accordance with Article 11 of the DRA Special Revolutionary Court.

Demonstrators Protest Price Increase in Staples, Fuel

HK031224 Hong Kong AFP in English 1202 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] New Delhi, Feb 3 (AFP) — About 2,000 people were arrested here today when they clashed with police during a protest over price rises, police said. Some 500 ordinary and 150 mounted policemen used canes to beat back the demonstrators who threw stones and attacked buses after they were blocked from taking their protest to the residence of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Police said the demonstrators, including 150 women and 18 children, were booked for violation of prohibitory orders already enforced in the area.

The protest was sponsored by the local chapter of the pro-Hindu opposition Bharatiya Janata Party and among those arrested was its Delhi chief Kidarnath Sahni.

Representatives of the protestors delivered a memorandum to the prime minister demanding the withdrawal of the price hikes on wheat, rice, sugar, coal, cooking gas, kerosene, petrol and fertilisers.

George Fernandes, a senior Janata leader and former industry minister, told reporters here last night that his party was contemplating further mass action along with other opposition parties on the issue. He said they would consider calling a nationwide general strike.

Gandhi, Tamil Leaders Denounce Killing in Sri Lanka

BK311610 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Talking to newsmen at the [Tiruchi] airport, the prime minister said during the past week there had been lot of deaths in Sri Lanka which could have been avoided. He felt that the Sri Lanka government should have the will to solve the ethnic issue. Mr Gandhi added that the foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, is going to Sri Lanka on Monday and we have to wait for the outcome.

Three leaders of the Tamil United Liberation Front, including its general secretary Mr A. Amrithalingam, left Tiruchi for New Delhi today along with the prime minister. Earlier, talking to newsmen at the airport, Mr Amrithalingam urged the Indian Government to take immediate steps to stop the killings of innocent Tamils in Sri Lanka. He said that he personally felt that the president, Mr Jaywardene, wanted only a military solution to the ethnic problem in the island. He also appreciated Mr Rajiv Gandhi's efforts in this regard.

One Arrested for Bombing of Tamil Nadu Bridge

BK010310 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] A PTI report from Tanjavur says one person has been taken into custody by the police in connection with Wedesday's [30 January] bomb blast at a road bridge at (Kandyru) in Thiruvaiyaru. The police said that a raid was conducted on the house of the arrested person and some incriminating materials were seized.

Foreign Secretary's Visit to Sri Lanka 'Postponed'

BK020855 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Excerpt] The visit of the foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, to Sri Lanka scheduled to commence from tomorrow has been postponed. This was conveyed by the high commissioner, Mr J.N. Dixit, to the Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene, yesterday. A press release issued by the Indian High Commission in Colombo says the postponement is due to unforeseen circumstances. The revised dates of the visit will be announced as soon as they are finalized.

Mr Bhandari told newsmen in Madras there remained a wide gap between the proposals of the Tamil United Liberation Front [TULF] to end the ethnic crisis in Sri Lanka and the response to them from Colombo. He said the Sri Lanka Government had rejected outright the TULF demand for a merger of the northern and eastern provinces. Mr Bhandari also said India has made it clear that it is interested only in helping to find a political solution. He said the cease-fire has to be made more effective and violence ended for a fruitful dialogue.

The AIR [All India Radio] Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumder, reports that the postponement has taken place against the background of recurring violence resulting in the declaration of curfew in the central highlands. Criticism has been voiced in certain quarters in Sri Lanka with the mainifest intent of obstructing the passage of the bill to grant Sri Lankan citizenship to additional Tamils as agreed upon by the governments of India and Sri Lanka.

Political circles in Colombo also indicate that the Sri Lankan response to the proposals of the TULF are being worked out at two levels. At the formal level, a largely negative response was communicated. At an informal level, however, another set of responses was reportedly being formulated to be discussed with the foreign secretary.

Official Spokesman on Nationals Killed in PDRY

BK311445 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1432 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] The official spokesman made the following statement on January 31: "We have been able to establish contact with the charge d'affaires in Aden. We understand that all embassy personnel are safe though the residence of the ambassador is reported to have been ransacked. I have to say with deep sorrow according to our information 17 Indian nationals are reported to have been killed. We have asked our charge d'affaires to immediately contact the Yemeni authorities and ascertain names of those who are reported to have been killed.

The Yemeni ambassador was today called to the External Affairs Ministry by Shri N.P. Jain, secretary. Shri Jain reiterated the

government's serious concern at the fate of the Indian nationals still in the PDRY. He requested the ambassador to provide immediate report on their condition and particularly in regard to the reported death of 17 Indian nationals who were caught in cross firing. The ambassador was also told that the Government of India looks forward to an immediate investigation into the reported ransacking of the ambassador's residence. The ambassador was also asked to arrange for immediate facilities for evacuation of Indian nationals by sea or by land.

It would be recalled that ever since the outbreak of violence in Yemen we were trying to keep in constant touch with Indian nationals. This has been rendered difficult because of a breakdown in communications. Nonetheless through contacts with the Soviet Union and UK 415 Indian nationals were moved to Djibouti. They have since returned to India. Shri Prakash Shah, joint secretary (Gulf division) in the External Affairs Ministry has proceeded to Bombay to meet the Indian nationals who had been evacuated from Yemen.

Responding to newsmen's queries on press reports that India and Israel are in close touch with a view to attack nuclear establishments in Pakistan, the spokesman said that this report is totally baseless.

On the visit of Mr John Louis Bianco, secretary general in President Mitterand's office and adviser to the president of France, the spokesman said that Mr Bianco had discussions with the foreign secretary. He also called today on the external affairs minister. They had wide ranging discussions mostly on international issues. They focussed attention on East-West relations, primarily disarmament. They also discussed Mr Gorbachov's proposals on disarmament and the Festival of France which is proposed to be held in India in 1988. From our side we explained our policies with regard to neighbouring countries. It was in this context that discussions also covered an exchange of views on the situation in Afghanistan. There was also an exchange of views on the situation in West Asia.

Reportage on 10-Day Visit of Pope John Paul

Met By Gandhi, Singh

BK010910 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] Pope John Paul II was given a warm welcome when he arrived in New Delhi today on a 10-day official cisit to the country. He was received at the airport by the president, Giani Zail Singh; the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi; his cabinet colleagues; diplomats and a number of bishops and civil and military officials. Twenty-one-gun salute boomed in salute as the pope alighted the plane and knelt down to kiss the ground. Later, he inspected an inter-services guard of honor.

Welcoming the pope, the president, Giani Zail Singh, said India has been the birthplace of many religions and has become the house of many others. In India, Christianity is as old as 52 A.D. when St Thomas, one of the apostles of Christ, landed on the west coast. Giani Zail Singh said India shares the Pope's belief in peace. He called for an immediate halt to the arms race and total nuclear disarmament. The president said that the pope's visit will be a memorable event not only to millions of Christians, but for all the people in the country.

The pope said India is significantly linked to the cause of peace in the international community. He appreciated India's sustained effort to promote practical recognition of equality and human dignity. Expressing his deep interest in the Indian culture he said modern India reflects a fine blending of the old and new.

The pope drove directly from the airport to the cathedral in the heart of the city, where he prayed briefly and met the people freely. He said he has come to India with a message of peace, goodwill and brotherhood.

The pope called on the president at the Rashtrapati Bhavan [President's House] and exchanged views on international affairs. The meeting lasted 20 minutes. Later, the vice president, Mr R. Venkataraman, called on the pope. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, also had a meeting with the pope.

Press Plays Down Protests

HK020444 Hong Kong AFP in English 0435 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Excerpt] New Delhi, Feb 2 (AFP) — Pope John Paul II together with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi today beamed from the front page of every Indian newspaper as he blessed the faithful on a visit to New Delhi's Sacred Heart Cathedral.

The Indian press stressed the peace and unity message which the pontiff delivered immediately upon his arrival in this 80 per cent Hindu country yesterday. The newspapers studiously avoided dwelling on demonstrations by Hindu nationalists which cast somewhat of a shadow here over the start of the pope's 10-day visit.

About 2,300 protesters were detained for bandying anti-pope slogans and burning effigies of the Polish-born pontiff, but most were to be released today following identity checks, police said.

Bhopal Muslims Protest Against Alimony Verdict

HK311516 Hong Kong AFP in English 1508 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Bhopal, India, Jan 31 (AFP) — Some 150,000 striking Moslems marched through the streets of this central Indian city today to protest against an Indian court verdict that they said infringed Moslem personal law, police here said.

The demonstrators, backed by opposition political parties, submitted to Madhya Prahesh state governor K.M. Chandi a memorandum objecting to the Indian Supreme Court's verdict in the Shah Banu alimony case. Late last year the Supreme Court approved a monthly maintenance allowance of 200 rupees (about 16 dollars) to a 75-year-old divorced Moslem woman from Indore in Madhya Pradesh, following a court case that spanned 20 years. The verdict provoked protests by orthodox Moslems, and several large demonstrations were held across the country. The police here in the Madhya Pradesh state capital said the demonstrators had marched through the streets ordering traders to close their

shops. The police kept a close watch to check any violence, a police spokesman said.

A spokesman for the protesters said they were enraged by the court verdict, which, he claimed, amounted to direct interference in Moslem personal law. India, a predominantly Hindu country, is also home to some 80 million Moslems.

Continuing Reportage on Sikh Unrest in Punjab

Restrictions on Foreigners Extended

BK311607 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] The whole of Punjab will continue to remain a restricted area under the Foreigners Restricted Areas Order, 1963, for another 2 months. The period, which was to expire on Sunday, has been extended till 2 April. The order prohibits entry of foreign passport holders to Punjab for any purpose without obtaining special permission.

No Request for Additional Forces

BK010921 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] It has been officially stated that the center has received no request from the Punjab government for additional forces to maintain law and order and, therefore, the question of sending them does not arise. It was stated that the law and order is strictly a matter for the state government and whatever situation develops in Punjab, it has to be dealt with by the state government.

It was clarified that the center has not held any discussion on the law and order situation in Punjab either with the chief minister, Mr Barnala, or the state finance minister, Mr Balwant Singh. Press reports that either of them was summond to New Delhi for this purpose were baseless.

Police Arrest Two Sikh Leaders

BK020301 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] In Punjab, 12 persons have been arrested by the police in different parts of the state. According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, a number of charges, including making inflammatory speeches and inciting people, are pending against them. Those arrested include Mr Surat Singh Khalsa, secretary of the Akali Dal, led by Mr Joginder Singh, and Mr Charan Jit Singh, a member of the Shirmani Gurdawar Prabandhak [Sikh Temple Management] committee.

Gunmen Kill Congress-I Worker

BK021555 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] In Punjab, one person was killed and one injured when two gunmen fired at them near (Rarsika) village in Amritsar District this evening. The gunmen came on a scooter. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh that the victims were sitting at a tea stall near the canal bridge when they were attacked.

According to agency reports, the person killed has been identified as Mr Harish Shah, a Congress-I leader of the area.

Meanwhile, the number of preventive arrest in the state has risen to 20.

Security Tightened on Border With Tibet

BK020404 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] In Uttar Pradesh, a 2,000 million rupees development-cum-security plan is being prepared for the area along the India-Tibetan border. It envisages construction of roads and bridges and strengthening the police force. According to official sources in Lucknow, this is being done to effectively check the smuggling and antisocial activities along the border. The center will provide 250 million rupees for the purpose.

Kashmir Takes Steps To Check Infiltrators

BK021339 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir government has intensified measures to check any infiltration of extremists from across the border. This was stated by the state chief minister, Mr Ghulam Mohammad Shah, in New Delhi today. He said during the past few months the state authorities have busted five major gangs.

Prime Minister Says Fundamental Rights Restored

BK020339 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Excerpt] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, has said that martial law has been lifted, democracy and fundamental rights restored, and the politicians allowed to express their opinion freely. It is now the duty of the politicians to use this freedom of expression within the limits of political norms and the law of the country.

He was talking to newsmen at Peshawar airport before his departure for Rawalpindi after a day's visit to the provincial capital.

Replying to a question, the prime minister said the present government is an elected government and will complete its tenure, after which the elections will be held on schedule.

Replying to another question, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo said Pakistan would not allow anybody to violate its territory and would provide all the protection and security to its people.

About the sabotage incidents, the prime minister said his government would in no cast allow the miscreants to play with the lives and the property of people and would deal with them effectively.

About steps taken to eliminate corruption, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo said that he has given a 5-point program to the nation, which is being implemented in letter and spirit. The elimination of corruption is also one point of his program and steps are underway to check it properly. He asked the elected members to help the government in this regard.

The prime minister said that he never closed the doors for dialogue with any party or leader. It is up to them to adopt [words indistinct] they desire.

Prime Minister, Peshawar Officials Discuss Security

BK011044 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Excerpt] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, presided over a meeting in Peshawar today to review the law and order situation in the province. He directed the concerned agencies to deal effectively with any antisocial element that wanted to disrupt the peace and tranquillity. He said now that complete democracy has been restored in the country, the elected government would deal with full force with these elements.

The meeting was attended by the provincial governor, Nawabzada Abdul Ghafur Khan Hoti; the chief minister, Arbab Mohammad Jahangir Khan; the federal ministers for interior, states and frontier regions, northern areas and Kashmir affairs, and water and power, and senior federal and provincial officials.

Indian Agricultural Experts Visit Country

BK311559 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] The visiting Indian agricultural experts' delegation led by Agriculture Secretary Dr N.S. Randhawa had a meeting with Pakistani agricultural experts in Islamabad today.

The Agricultural Research Division secretary and Agricultural Research Council chairman briefed the delegation on agricultural research in Pakistan and said that the government is giving special attention to improving the research institutions in the country. He said that exchange of scientists and technology, necessary equipment and scientific information, and the holding of agricultural experts' conferences in the two countreis will help increase agricultural production.

The Indian delegation leader said that his government desires to establish strong relations with Pakistan in agricultural science. He also spoke about Indian agricultural research at the meeting. Both sides agreed to formulate detailed programs and practical plans to further increase agricultural cooperation.

30 Afghan Soldiers Defect to Mujahidin

BK010629 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that during fierce fighting between Soviet-Karmal forces and mujahidin in eastern Afghanistan, 30 Afghan soldiers defected to the mujahidin.

Meanwhile, a private human rights group from New York has said the world's most serious human rights violations are in Afghanistan. The group, called Lawyers Committee on Human Rights, has accused the Soviet Union and Karmal administration of these violations in its annual report.

Mujahidin Operations Detailed

BK030300 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that the mujahidin killed 30 Soviet-Karmal soldiers in a severe clash in Ghazni Province on 28 January. The soldiers had to retreat leaving behind two destroyed tanks.

Another report says that the mujahidin set fire to a military store at Chaghcharan, the capital of Ghowr Province, on 18 January.

During operations in Qandahar the mujahidin also attacked the ruling party office in Maywand town.

The freedom fighters inflicted heavy loss of life on Soviet-Karmal forces during a clash at Qala Musa in Kabul. Two tanks were also damaged.

BANGLADESH

Delhi: 6-Hour Strike Called by Opposition Alliances

BK030905 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] In Bangladesh, a country-wide 6-hour haroal [strike] was observed today. It was called by the opposition alliances as part of their efforts to end the military rule. In Dhaka, vehicles were off the road and markets remained closed from 0600 in the morning till 1200. The hartal passed off peacefully.

The All India Radio Dhaka correspondent, Prabhakar Mishra, reports that the strike coincided with the government's call for stoppage of work today to protest against the violation of the sanctity of Al-Aqsa and Ibrahim Mosques by Israel.

All government offices, courts, educational institutions, mills, and factories stopped work this morning. The opposition leaders have charged the government that it had called the stoppage to neutralize the impact of their strike.

SRI LANKA

Jayewardene on Stateless People, General Elections

BK011125 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Excerpts] President J.R. Jayewardene has said that it is wrong to oppose the granting of citizenship to the stateless. He observed that a democratic system of government is now prevailing in the country which enabled all citizens to express their opinion openly and to belong to the religion of their choice.

The president recalled his association with the past leaders in a campaign of nonviolence to create such a situation. The president was speaking at a ceremony held yesterday at the Sri (Sudarshanarayan Vihara) at Mallavi near Colombo.

Mr Jayewardene said that no trouble could be won in disunity. Focussing on general election, the president announced that a general election would not be held [words indistinct] another 4 years.

President Jayewardene told the government parliamentary group yesterday that the Sri Lanka Freedom Party is trying to take political advantage from the issue of the granting of citizenship to stateless persons. The president explained that this was the problem that had to be solved early because these persons had been living in the country for a long period of time and they would have to be provided basic rights so that they could live in dignity.

Mr Jayewardene further said that certain sections were trying to rouse Buddhist and Sinhala sentiments to achieve narrow political gains. In this context he told government parliamentarians that no other government had done so much for the propagation of Buddhism as witnessed from July 1977.

The president pointed out that there had been many persons who were granted Indian citizenship [words indistinct] because of the delays in sorting out procedural matters. The blame for these delays should be shared equally by all governments which were in office from 1964 to 1977.

Citizenship Bill Passed

BK311441 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Excerpts] The debate on the bill to grant citizenship to stateless persons continued in parliament today. The minister of land, land development and Mahaweli development, Gamini Dissanayake, participating in the debate, appealed to members to consider this bill as a solution to a national problem and not as an opportunity for political gain. He said if the majority community decreases in any district, even the boundaries could be changed. The minister suggested that (Uduking Horalle) should be affiliated to the Nuwara Eliya District.

He said that those receiving citizenship must be integrated into our society and no opportunities given to them to join extremist organizations or to be duped by undesirable elements. To say that the prayer campaign was responsible for this bill is technically incorrect.

The bill was passed in parliament with a two-thirds majority a short while ago.

24-Hour Curfew Imposed in Five Areas

BK031117 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] A 24-hour curfew is now in effect in a number of up-country areas due to [words indistinct] incidents. The areas are Bogowantalawa, Maskeliya, Norwood, Hatton and Ginigathena.

The curfew, which came into effect at 0600 this morning, will be lifted only at 0600 tomorrow morning.

The curfew, which was imposed by the Ministry of Defense in the Ginigathena police area, will be effective from 1500 today till 0600 tomorrow.

A senior government minister said that a grave crisis is threatening the hill country. He alleged that the crisis has been brought about by British imperialism. He said the problem of statelessness of plantation workers of Indian origin could not be left to the younger generation.

The minister pointed out that northern terrorists were doing their utmost to take advantage of the situation on the estates.

The minister visited two refugee centers in the hill country yesterday where Sinhala and Tamil families are housed. He pledged to allocate funds for rehabilitation work.

Reportage on Visit of USSR's Korniyenko to Tehran

Arrives 2 February

LD021449 Tehran IRNA in English 1433 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 2, IRNA — The Soviet first deputy foreign minister, Georgiy Korniyenko heading a political [words indistinct] here Sunday.

On his arrival at Tehran's Mehrabad International Airport, Korniyenko said that the Soviet leadership believes that expansion of political contacts between Iran and the Soviet Union would be to the benefit of the two countries.

Korniyenko said the visit is in continuation of the growing relations between the two countries.

The Soviet delegation headed by Korniyenko is here at the invitation of Iran's acting foreign minister, 'Ali Mohammad Besharati.

The Soviet deputy foreign minister [words indistinct] visit here will hold talks with Iranian high-ranking officials on issues of mutual interests.

Expressing satisfaction with his being here, Korniyenko said that it would be better to comment on the objectives of his visit at the end of the visit.

The Iranian acting foreign minister said that due to the long border and history of co-existence between Iran and the Soviet Union, Korniyenko has been invited for talks on expansion of ties between the two countries. He further expressed hope that such talks would be in the interest of the two countries and help them establish better relations.

Meets Besharati, Aqazadeh

LD030807 Tehran IRNA in English 0800 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb 3, IRNA — The visiting first Soviet deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Korniyenko, in a meeting with the Iranian Acting Foreign Affairs Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, here Sunday afternoon discussed mutual relations, and ways of expanding them. They also discussed issues of mutual interest.

Korniyenko who arrived here Sunday heading a political delegation at the invitation of Besharati, also met with the Iranian oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh Sunday afternoon.

The Iranian oil minister condemned recent plots of non-OPEC oil producers in reducing oil prices and termed the Soviet Government decision in cutting down oil exports as a timely reaction.

Aqazadeh also brought up problems concerning execution of oil exploration and exploitation projects in the Caspian Sea and hoped that through necessary cooperation of the Soviet Union these problems will be eliminated.

Korniyenko is the most senior Soviet official to visit Iran in post-revolution period.

Soviet Union as one of the main world oil exporters is not pleased with the recent oil price cut and has recently announced that it will not sell its oil to less than 27 dollars per barrel.

Economic relations between Iran and the Soviet Union at present are described to be at good level. Prior to the revolution economic cooperation included Esfahan steel mill industry, several dams and power plants.

Iran used to export more than 25 million cubic meters of natural gas per day to Soviet Union. However, after the victory of the 1979 Islamic revolution due to price disputes and also Iran's policy of giving priority to domestic consumption, gas exports to Soviet Union were cut off. Resumption of export of natural gas to Soviet Union in expected to be raised in the discussions. Exports of natural gas will depend on reaching an agreement on price.

Velayati Accepts Moscow Invitation

LD031426 Tehran IRNA in English 1410 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 3, IRNA — The first deputy foreign minister of the Soviet Union, Georgiy Korniyenko, in a meeting with foreign affairs Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, here Monday, handed over a message from his Soviet counterpart, Eduard A. Shevardnadze, invited Velayati to visit Moscow.

Korniyenko who arrived here Sunday heading a delegation, hoped that the visit would take place this year. Velayati accepting the invitation added that he will pay an official visit to Moscow in an appropriate time.

Foreign Minister Velayati an Korniyenko held extensive talks on issues of mutual interests. During the meeting (?heads) of the joint economic commission were appointed and it was decided that the commission be held at ministerial level in a near future.

Oil Ministry Denies Khark Installations Destroyed

LD021809 Tehran IRNA in English 1652 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb 2, IRNA — Iran's Oil Ministry Sunday [2 February] refuted Iraqi claims that Iran's Khark Island and oil installations have been "completely destroyed".

In its statement the ministry said that Iran is fully capable of exporting more than its OPEC quota, and that its revolutionary decision to halve its oil exports was done solely to defend the price of oil in challenge to big powers conspiracy to drive it down. Western media over the past few days have alleged that Iran's decision to halve its exports was due to Iraqi attacks on Khark Island. Iran remains committed to its pledge to keep its oil exports at whatever level deemed necessary to defend OPEC's official prices in the interest of the masses of these countries. Oil sources hope that other oil producing nations will follow suit.

Khamene'i Addresses 10 Days of Dawn Ceremony
LD011435 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that on the eve of the 7th anniversary of the victory of the Islamic Revolution and the auspicious anniversary of the imam of the ummah's return to the country, and on the occasion of the 1st day of the 10 Days of Dawn, the day of the Islamic revolution and leadership, a special ceremony marking the 10 Days of Dawn began today with a speech by Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the state and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council. The ceremony, attended by personalities and Islamic scholars from throughout the country, as well as foreign guests, was held in Tehran's Laleh Hotel.

The ceremony, which was also attended by government and military officials, was addressed by Khatami, the minister of Islamic guidance. After greeting and welcoming the guests, and describing the victory of the Islamic revolution as a miracle, he stated: The ideology which can withstand the aggressive drives of arrogance is Islam. Today in Lebanon, Islam is the largest force confronting Zionism. In South Africa it is Islam and the cries of "God is greatest", that is causing the racists and their supporters to tremble. In Afghanistan too, it is Islam which is tightening the noose around the aggressor's neck, and in Egypt and the rest of the world, it is Islam which is a determining factor.

The minister of Islamic guidance, stated in conclusion: We are celebrating the 7th anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution at such a time when, with reliance on God, under the shadow of the leadership of the imam of the ummah, and in the presence of the people, our revolution has been exported. we carried out a revolution based on thoughts and ideas not only important to us, but to others too. The Islam-seeking wave has engulfed the Islamic and non-Islamic world.

Next, Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, after extending his welcome to the guests to the 10 Days of Dawn of the Islamic revolution and referring to the extensive propaganda of world arrogance against the Islamic revolution, stated: World arrogance, during these 7 years since the victory of the revolution, has endeavored to prevent the decisive voice and the clear argument of our revolution from reaching the ears of the people of the world and of the deprived, especially the ears of Islamic nations.

Khamene'i, while referring to the ideological foundation of the Islamic revolution, stated: The Muslim nation of Iran succeeded in making their revolution victorious by benefitting from a movement which, during the past 100 years, has never been at a standstill in the world of Islam, even for a moment, and has been personified in the literature, poetry and art, and in the struggles of the Muslim nations of the region. This movement -- which began in Egypt and India with renowned Islamic thinkers, the seeds of which were spread along the horizons of Islam, and which became increasingly more complete and in line with Koranic principles -- became liberating and life-creating, thanks to theologists and experts on the Koran, within the framework of incontrovertible and unassailable principles, the basis of which is a return to genuine Islam. The deprived nations of the world saw this movement through the Islamic revolution of Iran.

Khamene'i, referring to the experience of Islamic revolution in the world, stated: The Islamic revolution is the greatest living thing for the world of Islam. Today, through the experience of this revolution, there is no room left for harboring any doubts and all the world's Muslims can, by benefiting from the experiences of this revolution, stand up against the arrogance of satanic powers and become victorious, like the Muslim people of Iran.

The president, referring to faith, leadership and the people — three effective factors in the victory of the revolution — stated: From the beginning of our victory the enemy has tried to rob the people of their unity, centrainzed leadership and their faith in the revolution, and to drive them away. But today, 7 years since the revolution of Iran, people continue their struggles with the very same faith and motivation.

The president, explaining the real meaning of exporting the revolution, stated: The export of the revolution in the sense of exporting its values and proving the theory of the feasability of change in Third World societies through Islamic movements steadfastness and resistance in the face of world arrogance, must receive more attention by Muslim nations. Today, we are witnessing the expansion of the Islam-seeking waves and we support all Islamic movements.

Scholar Muhammad Ghazali, a founder of Egypt's Islamic movement and also a founder of the movement for the unity of Shi'ites and Sunnis in Egypt, referring to the superficiality of faith in God, and the role of the environment in the creation of deviationist ideas, and stressing the importance of publicity and the call to Islam, criticized the propaganda stratagems of Western and Eastern schools of thought. He stated: In Eastern propaganda schools of thought emphasis is laid only on the material rights of individuals, and in Western propaganda schools of thought the emphasis is on freedom and anarchy. But Islam seeks the liberation of the masses, consultation, and respect for the rights of people.

Continuing his remarks, he described the Islamic Republic of Iran as the glory and manifestation of the aspirations of the world's Muslim. He said: The establishment of the Islamic system in Iran, and the demonstration of the realities of Islam is the best propaganda for Islam. In conclusion Muhammad Ghazali said: What is interesting to me is that in Iran everyone talks about Islam and makes calls to Islam.

Delegation Briefs Montazeri on Visit to Afghanistan
LD031149 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] The correspondent of the Central News Unit interviewed Hojjat ol-Eslam Javahiri, the head of the delegation sent by Ayatollah Montazeri to Afghanistan, in Qom, on the delegation's return from Afghanistan. He asked Hojjat ol-Eslam Javaheri questions about the objectives of the delegation, their plans and their success.

The head of the delegation in this interview said: Following Grand Ayatollah Montazeri's explicit orders about solving internal and factional differences in Afghanistan and the need for forming a united Islamic front comprised of all Muslim and struggling groups of Afghanistan, at the request of theologians and struggling clergy of Afghanistan, a delegation including Afghan ulema and theologians, representatives of the Islamic Jihad Guards, Nasr, Islamic Movement, the Islamic Movement of the United Islamic Revolution Front and the Islamic Forces of Afghanistan were sent to Afghanistan on orders and as representatives of Grand Ayatollah Montazeri. The main objective — set out in detail in several paragraphs in his excellency's order — was to invite the Islamic and revolutionary groups of Afghanistan to achieve unity of expression, to put aside their internal hostilities and to pay attention to the problems of the clergy inside Afghanistan.

He added: The Afghan nation is an oppressed and selfless nation which is interested in religion and its clergy. Wherever we went in our trip to convey the unifying message of Grand Ayatollah Montazeri to the combatant groups and the brave Afghanis, athe poeple showed amazing enthusiasm and welcome towards the delegation, its mission and the honest struggling Afghan ulema. He added: In spite of many problems, the delegation was successful in carrying out its mission. We discussed all issues of interest with various groups of Afghan people and conveyed the emotions and sympathy of the selfless struggling nation of Iran. We also conveyed the special attention paid by the leader [Ayatollah Khomeyni] and the Grand Ayatollah Montazeri to the problems and difficulties of the oppressed nation of Afghanistan.

Referring to the delegation's meeting with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri on its return from Afghanistan in order to report on the trip, Hojjat ol-Eslam Javahiri said: In this meeting, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri thanked and praised the delegation for its efforts and sacrifices. The Grand Ayatollah prayed for the delegation and once again pointed to the danger of internal and factional differences, stressing that in these critical circumstances when East and West have united to fight against Islam and oppressed nations, it is our duty to put aside our minor and factional differences. We should not allow the Islamic unity of expression to be harmed. His Excellency also mentioned that the honorable Afghan ulema and theologians should try to travel to their country to help the struggling nation of Afghanistan in its battle.

Further Reportage on Islamic Thought Conference

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Address

GF010650 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] According to a report by our correspondent, during the final session of the fourth Conference on Islamic Thought held last night, the Majlis speaker, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, delivered a speech. Noting the problems and plots hatched by the enemies of Islam to overthrow the Islamic revolution, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: The Islamic Republic has managed to revive Islamic values to such a large extent that all those issues considered valuable in idolatrous countries are condemned by our people.

The Majlis speaker added: We have been able to revive Islamic social justice without resorting Marxist slogans which have created a great deal of uproar concerning the achievements of the rights of the oppressed. We have managed, to a large degree, to give various facilities to the oppressed of our country. For example, currently two-thirds of our villages have power and water. He added: Irrespective of all these issues, we do not claim to have achieved complete justice, but we are striving to achieve the highest possible.

Contrary to the forecasts of our enemies concerning our inabilities in the field of economy, today they are all forced to admit the existence of the good conditions and superb situation of the Islamic Republic of Iran. We doubtlessly are striving to achieve complete economic independence and currently, thank the Lord, with regard to military equipment and self-sufficiency, we are able to produce many of our needs in our own country such as ordinary bullets or some sophisticated large missiles.

As far as civilian industries are concerned, before the revolution the majority of our factories were run by expatriates. However, today, these industries are managed by our own experts and specialists, reducing our industrial dependence from 80 to 50 percent.

Referring to the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: At present our country is the most faithful society to Islamic ideals. Considering the freedom-seeking nature of our people, we will condemn any injustice that we encounter. He added: Aside from a few countries which have a natural colonialist and racist attitudes, we wish to establish ties with all countries. However, we will never bargain with anyone over our ideals.

The Majlis speaker then referred to military dimensions and general mobilizations to oppose the enemies and said: The most important issue in our country is the presence of the people in the war. Should we desire, we can mobilize the greatest popular army in the world, with the exception of a few highly populated countries. Currently, there is no other power with the nature and techniques of the Islamic Republic of Iran. This independence has created such a sweet taste in our people that they are prepared to sacrifice everything in realizing it.

At the conclusion of his speech, Hashemi-Rafsanjani answered various questions by the participants.

Further Details

LD010808 Tehran IRNA in English 0750 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 1, IRNA — The Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani speaking in the closing day of the Islamic Thought Conference, here Friday said "we do not claim that our society has been transformed into a full Islamic society". However, he told the audience, great efforts have been made in this respect and achievements are outstanding.

He further told the conference which was attended by a large number of foreign and Iranian Islamic scholars and personalities, that Islamic principles have been introduced in all levels of Iranian society and in all aspects of the social system and there will be no compromise on these standards.

Drawing a comparison between values which prevailed over the society in pre and post-revolution period, he said that the change has been drastic, the diabolic values have been replaced by divine ones.

Establishment of social justice, he told the conference, has been a source of pride for the Islamic Republic of Iran although there is still more to be done. In this campaign he stressed unlike other systems, no force has been involved.

He then cited improvement of conditions in rural areas and also special attention paid to welfare of workers as other gains of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In continuation of his speech he referred to economic progress and also training of Iranian experts and specialists who have been able to run various factories and firms efficiently and fill in the vacuum created by expulsion of foreign experts.

On Iran's foreign policy Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said that Iran has been a staunch opponent of injustice. Iran has been against occupation of Afghanistan just as it has condemned any act of aggression in any other part of the world. Iran in its foreign policy has given a special priority to Islamic countries and is a member of the Non-Aligned Movement and the Islamic Conference Organisation.

On military status of Iran he said that in post-revolutionary period Iran has run its own military industry with no foreign help and spare parts from abroad. He then referred to the Iranian popular army and added that Iran's military might was one of the strongest in the world.

Conference Concludes

GF010704 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] The fourth Conference on Islamic Thought ended its work in Tehran yesterday afternoon with a resolution. The conference, which ran for 3 days, was attended by a large number of ulema, theologians, and domestic and foreign religious, political, and university personalities.

In their resolution, the participants invite all ulema and philosophers of the world to research and review the social and political issues and problems of the world of Islam and explain their results in various scientific and religious centers for the Islamic ummah and particularly the young generation In addition, all scientific conferences and cultural gatherings held in the name of Islam are invited to stress the life-giving philosophy of Islam, put the interests of the Islamic ummah at the top of their programs and be steadfast in battling corruption and moral deviation which stems from the East and the West.

The participants in the conference stress that on the 7th anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution and the establishment of the Islamic government in Iran, the conference (?praises) the stability and power of the Islamic system and its victory over all the plots of the oppressors and also the large steps taken in the Islamification of all the laws in every aspect of life, and again stresses the leadership role of the imam of ummah, His Holiness Grand Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni, may his shadow extend, for the Islamic ummah. It invites the world of Islam to follow this glorious revolution and establish Islamic values in all aspects of life and strengthen its philosophical positions.

The resolution notes the dangerous situation created by the onslaught of international oppression against Muslims in the world of Islam and asks all faithful groups led by ulema and philosophers to take effective and solid steps to deepen Islamic awareness and to stress and strengthen the attitude of the aware and capable resistance of the ummah which has appeared in the face of the plots of the oppression — there are living examples of this, such as the hero of Sinai Sulayman Khatir and others who oppose injustice — and condemn all oppressive measures to oppose Islamic awareness or false plans hidden in the guise of Islam.

The participants consider the issue of Palestine one of the most important issues for the world of Islam and ask all Muslims of the world mobilize to destroy the regime occupying Palestine and reestablish an Islamic government in this land.

The participants strongly condemn any collusive political solution, such as the Camp David accord, as well as satanic moves to move Israel out of its political isolation. Noting the war imposed by the Ba'thist-Zionist regime of Iraq against the system of the Islamic Republic, the resolution notes that the war is a step taken by international oppression to deal blows against the Islamic system in Iran and to fight the general awakening and awareness of Islam. The conference thus condemns the aggressor regime of Iraq and asks all the Muslims of the world to cooperate with the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Muslim Iraqi nation, led by its Muslim ulema, to overthrow this rebellious regime and strongly condemn the oppressive regime of Iraq which has caused the murder of hundreds of the ulema and mujahidin, foremost of whom is the martyred Ayatollah Sadr, and the plunder of the wealth of hundreds of thousands who have become innocent refugees, thus revealing the false claims for peace by this criminal regime. The participants also stress their support and approval for the Muslims and oppressed people of the world and criticize all plots by the dominant forces to trample their human rights. The conference also invites the world of Islam to deal with international plots to create economic crisis in revolutionary countries, such as the latest plot to reduce the price of oil, and to denounce it.

Resolution Condemns U.S., USSR

LD312338 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Excerpts] The fourth Conference on Islamic Thought came to an end this evening after passing a resolution. Our correspondent reports that a large number of ulema, theologians, university

professors, and domestic and foreign religious and political personalities participated in this 3-day conference.

The resolution passed by the conference was read at this session. The resolution, while condemning the war imposed by Iraq on Iran and recognizing the Ba'thist regime of Iraq as the aggressor, acknowledges the Palestinian issue as one of the most important issues of the world of Islam. All Muslims of the world are asked to rise in order to destroy the Zionist regime. The mujahid nation of Iraq are called upon in the resolution to revolt against the Zionist regime of Saddam.

The conference condemns the aggression of the USSR forces against Afghanistan and stressed the need for their withdrawal and unconditional departure of these forces and emphasized that the grounds should be prepared for the establishment of Islamic government in that land. The conference shunned all plots hatched by world arrogance against Muslims and asked the world of Islam to exercise full awareness in foiling such conspiracies. The conference resolution also condemns U.S. withdrawal from UNESCO which was done in order to deal a blow to that organization. Finally it announced its support for all liberation movements in the world.

Deputy Oil Minister, UAE President Discuss Oil Prices

LD011904 Tehran IRNA in English 1823 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb 1, IRNA — Iran's deputy oil minister Hoseyn Kazempur-Ardabili Saturday submitted President Khamene'i's message to President of the United Arab emirates Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, and described Iran's stances vis-a-vis oil price conspiracy. Ardabili said OPEC members especially Muslim countries are being tested on whether they will protect oppressed people's interests against the arrogant powers' plots. Islamic Ummah will not tolerate acquiescence of OPEC countries in the oil price decline, he said. Iran reduced its production by 50 percent in an effort to face the plot, said the visiting Iranian official.

The U.A.E. president expressed regret on stances adopted by certain OPEC members who prefer their interests to that of others. Shaykh Zayid in a tirade against the oil consumer industrialized countries said they make profit by purchasing cheap oil and selling their industrial goods at high prices. Big powers will not dare bully the region if Muslim countries adopt united stances, Shaykh Zayid said.

Meanwhile, Kazempur-Ardabili told the Abu Dhabi based daily *AL-WAHDAH* Saturday that the Islamic Republic would oppose any quota increase as long as it destablizes OPEC prices. The deputy minister stressed that Iran is capable of exporting its full quota. He also lashed out at certain OPEC members not abiding by OPEC prices. Ardabili also denied that Iran had halted oil exports to Syria and said a shipment of oil is now en route there.

Larijani in Libya To Discuss Oil Production, Pricing

LD311825 Tehran IRNA in English 1808 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Tripoli, Jan. 31, IRNA — Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister in charge of international and economic affairs Javad Larijani is here since Thursday [30 January] to discuss production and pricing policies by members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) with Libyan officials. He is also bearing a message from Iranian President Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i to the Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

In an interview shortly after his arrival here Thursday, he said that the Islamic Republic asserts its viewpoints for maintaining oil prices and production ceilings by OPEC members and added that a united front by OPEC members and a concerted and identical response against Western price war is certain to bring victory for the oil exporting countries.

Larijani has similar messages from the Iranian president to leaders of other OPEC member states. He expressed confidence that other OPEC members would welcome Iran's stand since it is "realistic and based on foresight."

Meets Al-Turayki, Al-Shakshuki

LD020705 Tehran IRNA in English 0655 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, Feb. 2, IRNA — The Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister in charge of international and economic affairs, Javad Larijani in a meeting with the Libyan Foreign Minister 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki here Saturday discussed recent plots of imperialists and reactionary countries of the region to decrease oil price. They also discussed ways of encountering these plots.

Larijani who is currently heading a delegation to Tripoli, in a separate meeting with the Libyan Oil Minister Fawzi al-Shakshuki, Saturday night discussed oil related issues and the current decline in oil price.

The Libyan oil minister criticised certain Arab countries of the region which through flooding the oil market, have played into the hands of imperialist powers. However, he added, a proper stance of the oil producing countries and their unified action will thwart the U.S. plots. The Libyan oil minister stressed the need for a coordinated action of OPEC members and said that in this respect Libya, Algeria and Iran shouldered a great responsibility.

Larijani commenting on the same subject said that oil producing countries determined the oil price rather than the consumers and those countries which make the prices fall through their excess production. [sentence as received] He emphasised that oil producing countries should not give in to any pressure. These countries, he added, should know that they will suffer the most from economic and political consequence of such moves.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,367

LD311719 Tehran IRNA in English 1650 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 31, IRNA — Iranian troops and Iraqi forces exchanged sporadic artillery fire in most of the battlefronts in west and south west Iran throughout Thursday, according to a military communique released by the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran here Friday.

The military communique number 2367 of the command says five Iranian combatants were injured as Iraqi forces fired chemical bombs in an operation area near the Persian Gulf port city of Khorramshahr at 01:30 hours local time Friday (23:00 hours GMT Thursday), while some locations in the Iranian city of Abadan were partly damaged as they were hit by Iraqi shells from across the border Thursday.

The Joint Staff reports limited engagement between the Iranian forces and the Iraqi troops in the battlefronts elsewhere Thursday.

In an area west of the city of Qasr-e Shirin Thursday, the Iranian forces pushed back one Iraqi patrol unit and elsewhere in Sumar they pounded and inflicted casualties on another patrol unit of enemy troops.

Fighting in the north western battlefronts Thursday continued less intensely with Iran's Muslim forces checking supply operations of the Iraqi troops and inflicting damages and casualties on them.

In the western fronts Iran's Muslim combatants prevented the Iraqi troops from building up breastworks and performing other engineering operations, and elsewhere along border areas west of the city of Dehloran, Iranian gendarmerie forces sent patrol and reconnaissance units to survey enemy positions. They returned safely to their bases.

Communique No 2,368

LD011643 Tehran IRNA in English 1625 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 1, IRNA — Iranian artillery fire on Iraqi positions in the Western fronts Friday killed and wounded at least 20 Iraqi soldiers, demolished over 30 emplacements and wrecked three crew-operated weapons of theirs, according to a communique published by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran here Saturday.

The communique Number 2368 says that Iranian artillery fire hit Iraqi patrols in Sumar and Mehran, both in the western fronts, Friday forcing them to flee.

Iraqi forces heavily pounded Chilat and fired five chemical shells in the area at 22:00 hours local time (18:30 hours GMT) Thursday which due to the suitable weather conditions did not harm the Iranian Muslim combatants, reports the joint staff.

The communique says that Iran's combatants pounded Iraqi positions in the northwestern fronts Friday inflicting substantial casualties and damage on them. They also despatched 20 patrol units near strategically important locations of Iraqi forces lessening their combat power.

Artillery duels continued in the southern fronts Friday raging somewhat more heavily in Shahrani and Tuwaylah, says the communique, adding that Iranian artillery fire forced back an Iraqi patrol unit trying to infiltrate their positions in Meymeh.

Elsewhere the communique says that Iranian Muslim forces checked the movement of Iraqi tanks in Chazzabeh and Nahre-Anbar as well as their helicopter flights in Chazzabeh Friday minimizing their operations. Meanwhile Iraqi forces continued shelling the cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr, both in Khuzestan Province Friday.

Communique No 2,369

LD021613 Tehran IRNA in English 1607 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 2, IRNA — Iran's Muslim combatants opened heavy fire on Iraqi positions in the western fronts Saturday, killing at least 10 Iraqi soldiers and demolishing one truck and several gun emplacements of theirs, according to a military communique released by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here Sunday.

In its Communique number 2369 the command says that artillery duels between Iranian Muslim forces and Iraqi troops continued more intensely in the southern fronts. It furthermore says that Iranian combatants checked Iraqi operations including engineering activities is Hoseyniyeh and Jofeyr Saturday.

Iranian forces shelled an Iraqi tank column in an area west of Jofeyr silencing their fire and elsewhere in areas overlooking Hoseyniyeh they prevented the movements of an enemy mechanized unit, says the joint staff communique.

In areas overlooking Qasr-e Shirin in western fronts, an Iraqi patrol unit was forced to flee as it came under Iranian artillery fire and elsewhere in Halaleh Iranian Muslim checked Iraqi engineering operations Saturday. [sentence as received]

Elsewhere the communique says an Iranian reconnaissance unit infiltrated Iraqi positions in Piranshahr in northwestern fronts Saturday and after gathering information and seizing booty safely returned to its base. No clashes were reported with the Iraqi troops.

In the northwestern fronts Iranian Muslim combatants prevented Iraqi engineering operations concentrated in Panjwin Saturday, according to the communique, while the city of Abadan in Khuzestan province was the target of Iraqi long-range artillery fire Saturday.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 FEBRUARY 1986

Israel

Forced Landing of Libyan Plane — A special announcement interrupted the regular newscast on Tripoli radio stating that "Jewish air pirates" had forced a Libyan Arab Airlines plane to land and that U.S. Naval units in the Mediterranean "provided full information to the Zionist pirates about the movements of the civilian plane." An IDF spokesman said that the plane was suspected of carrying people involved in "planning anti-Israeli terrorist acts," according to Tel Aviv IDF Radio. The radio added that the decision to intercept the plane was made by the "highest echelons" in Israel. It was learned that the passengers were Syrian politicians, who were released, and the plane took off the radio noted. Meanwhile, Damascus Radio reported that Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' summoned the ambassadors of the five UN Security Council member-countries and requested an immediate meeting of the UN Security Council.

Directors General Trip to Egypt — The ministerial directors general will depart for Cairo on 5 February to discuss the political package deal which includes the Tabah issue, Jerusalem radio reported following an Inner Cabinet meeting which approved the departure.

Knesset No-Confidence Vote — The Knesset rejected by a large majority a no-confidence motion submitted by the Tehiya Movement, Jerusalem television reported.

OPEC

The UAE petroleum minister told the UAE's *AL-ITTIHAD* that the planned 6 February emergency meeting of the OPEC Higher Monitoring Council has been cancelled, KUNA reported. OPEC sources attributed this development to Saudi Arabia's intention to "foil any thought" that the Kingdom has withdrawn from its "confrontation stance" against non-OPEC states, particularly Britain, the agency added. In Riyadh, the Saudi information minister disclosed that the cabinet discussed the fall in oil prices during a 3 February session chaired by King Fahd, SPA reported. The minister said the cabinet denied "biased and baseless claims" that Saudi Arabia is seeking to reduce oil prices, noting the cabinet's view that all oil-exporting countries should cooperate to prevent a continuation of the price fall and to return prices to acceptable levels.

King Fahd also discussed the oil situation in a telephone conversation with Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and in a meeting with the Iranian deputy petroleum minister, according to JANA and Tehran radio. The Iranian official emphasized Iran's opposition to "plots" to lower the price of oil, stating that while Iran does not oppose attempts to secure a larger market share for OPEC, this should not lead to the cheap sale of Muslim oil reserves, Tehran radio noted.

Egypt

The Higher State Security Court sentenced four Libyans to life imprisonment on charges of trying to assassinate Libyan exile 'Abd al-Hamid al-Bakkush, MENA announced 4 February.

Jordan, PLO

Jordan will not attend any international conference on the Middle East that does not have decision-making powers and binding authority, a senior Jordanian official told the *JORDAN TIMES*. The official said that Israel is discussing a "simulated conference" while Jordan seeks an "effective" one.

Meanwhile, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat commented on the results of his recent talks with King Husayn in a statement to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* reported by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio. 'Arafat said the talks did not fail but have stopped at this stage, though contacts between the two sides are continuing.

Lebanon

Another explosion in the Christian sector killed 4 people and wounded 22 others, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. The bomb, which was attached to a rocket, exploded in the Al-Judaydah area near East Beirut.

Iran-Iraq War; Gulf Shipping

Iraqi aircraft hit a large maritime target near the Iranian coast, attacked an Iranian military camp at Hamid, and twice attacked the Ganaveh oil pipeline intersection, according to Iraqi military statements broadcast by Voice of the Masses and Baghdad radio. Iraqi planes have carried out 2,340 combat missions since the start of the year, a statement revealed. In Bandar-e Abbas, Iranian Interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi said the United States would be "well advised" to keep out of the Persian Gulf since Iran is "powerfully present" there, adding that Iran is proud of its interception and inspection of a U.S. ship in the Gulf, IRNA reported.

Iran

At the conclusion of his 3-day visit to Tehran, USSR First Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Korniyenko described his talks with President 'Ali Khamene'i and other officials as "frank" and "constructive," IRNA reported.

PDRY

A PDRY envoy held talks in Tripoli with Libyan General People's Committee Chairman Muhammad al-Zarruq Rajab,

Adea radio reported, adding that Rajab affirmed Libya's support for the Yemeni people's "collective leadership." Another PDRY envoy left for Oman to deliver a message to Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id from acting Chairman Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, the radio disclosed. Salalah radio subsequently broadcast a PDRY-Omani joint statement in which the Yemeni envoy affirmed the PDRY's desire to abide by the 1982 agreement with Oman and to continue negotiations in all fields, including the borders committee. The statement also noted Oman's view that "whatever took place in the PDRY is considered an internal affair which concerns the PDRY only."

Although Aden radio has generally reverted to the broadcasting schedule that existed before 13 January, the radio is still not carrying the Voice of Palestine.

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Karmal Chairs PDPA Session on Economy, Elections
LD302230 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] A PDPA Central Committee Politburo session was held, chaired by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo heard a report by Sarwar Mangal, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and head of the State Planning Committee regarding the draft of the DRA's fundamental directions of socioeconomic development of the for 1365-1369 [1986-1990]. After a comprehensive consideration of the plan, it was approved.

In drafting the fundamental directions, complex economic measures were envisaged for the country's socioeconomic development, as well as the consolidation of the material and technical pillars for the construction of a democratic society. This is in accordance with the decision of the 16th PDPA Central Committee plenum and DRA Revolutionary Council statement on the national and democratic character of the April Revolution and its immediate duties under the present circumstances.

The volume of investment in the coming 5-year plan has been envisaged at approximately 115 billion afghanis, which is an increase of several billion afghanis in comparison to the total investment during the 20 pre-revolution years.

Karmal said: The major duty of the fundamental directions of the socioeconomic development is the continued realization of PDPA policy for enhancing the material and general living standard of the Afghan people on the basis of the strengthening and development of the national economic sector, government and cooperatives sectors, and the enhancement of commodity, monetary, and commercial relations in the national economy.

All existing reserves must be used to improve the people's living standard. Efforts should be made to search for domestic and foreign income resources and maximum use should be made of the country's private investors and national traders. More attention should be paid to the production of commodities for the basic needs of the people.

Investment accelerates the country's socioeconomic development and the allocation of a large portion of investment for the construction of factories and productive enterprises will provide a solid foundation for our new society.

The Politburo decided that a condensed draft of the fundamental directions of the DRA's socioeconomic development for 1365-1369, will be published in the mass media so that the public can express its views.

A commission was also appointed to study the views and suggestions of the collectives and inhabitants regarding the draft of the 5-year plan and to consider them in the final draft of the five-year plan which will be presented at a regular PDPA Central Committee plenum and DRA Revolutionary Council session.

At this PDPA Central Committee Politburo session, the results of the first stage of the elections for the local organs of state power and administration and subsequent duties in this respect were also discussed and assessed.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo pointed out that the first stage of the elections — due to the active part of the high preparatory and convocation commission on the election of the PDPA local organs of state power and administration for local party committees and social organizations in the capitals of Badakhshan, Balkh, Nangarhar, Nimroz and Kabul Provinces, as well as in Kabul city — took place in a completely free and democratic atmosphere, in consideration of the traditions and local characteristics. It successfully concluded in accordance with the (?spirit of the law) and the instructions amid happy gatherings of people.

The elections are regarded a major step for the broadening of the social pillars of the revolution in the localities. At election gatherings, 90 percent of eligible voters attended and elected 120 delegates in 28 jirgas and councils.

(?The rejection of) some candidates in the electorate sessions of Kabul, Badakhshan, and Balkh Provinces and in Kabul city manifested the genuine form of democracy and determination of the people in electing their delegates.

The Politburo emphasized that the resolutions and decisions of 16th PDPA Central Committee Plenum and DRA Revolutionary Council statement dated 22 Aqrab 1364 [13 November 1985] form the foundation for all preliminary organizational, propaganda, preparatory, and convocational affairs of the second stage of the elections. The experience and new gains are to be used in a much broader way. The elections should be used as a major political step for the broadening and consolidation of the social pillars of the revolution, party, and government; normalization of the situation in the country; consolidation of the party links with the broad masses of the people; explanation of party and government policy; and securing of active participation of the people in government administration. The election contest must be in harmony with the implementation and execution of economic measures and other needs of the people.

The mass media of the capital and provinces should focus on the importance of election [words indistinct] sovereignty and active role of the masses in this task, and should endeavor to reflect on the process of the election of the government organs and activities of the new organs in accordance with the local (?organization).

The National Fatherland Front Central Council should take practical measures and apply them to enhance the role of the residential councils in the preparation and convocation of elections, and consolidate relations with masses and to mobilize the national and patriotic forces.

Speaking about this issue, Karmal said that all party and government organs and social organizations in the capital and localities are duty-bound to play their active role in the preparation and convocation of the second stage of elections, and explanation of the law on local organs and election law.

The active participation of the people in the election displays the broadening of the social pillars of the revolutionary sovereignty of our people and is an outstanding example of the party link with the people and realization of the aspirations of our people.

At this PDPA Central Committee Politburo session, decisions were also made on a number of other immediate issues of socioeconomic and political life, as well as defense matters.

5-Year Plan Endorsed

LD310701 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Kabul, January 30, BAKHTAR — The five-year socio-economic plan of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan was for the first time formulated and endorsed, writes daily *ANIS*. The propounding of basic directions of socio-economic development of the DRA fully conform with the aspirations of the working people of the country.

The five-year plan of the socio-economic development of the DRA has reflected the development and growth of all sectors of national economy. For instance, the growth of gross products during the period of the new five-year plan will be 25 percent. This shows an increase of 11 percent in comparison with the growth of previous five years.

In accordance with the plan, the growth of industrial products will be 38 percent and that of agricultural products will be 15 percent. The percentage shows an increase of 10 and 9.2 percent respectively in comparison with the previous five years.

In accordance with the plan, wide strides aimed at electrifying the country and economically ensuring the country from the viewpoint of electric energy during the forthcoming five years will be taken, the daily concludes.

Autumn Cultivation Campaign

LD310705 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0433 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Kabul, January 30, BAKHTAR — In the autumn cultivation campaign of the current Afghan year, over 16,000 hectares of land have been brought under cultivation in the centre as well as in the suburbs of Samangan Province of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan DRA. More than 10,000 hectares of which was cultivated wheats, and the rest of them toiled with different cereals.

In the campaign improved seeds, chemical fertilizers and long term and easy credits, were rendered to the individual farmers, and members of the peasant cooperatives by the state of the DRA.

Keshtmand Comments on Land Policy, Private Investment

LD020610 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0428 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] Kabul, February 1, BAKHTAR — Presently, there exist 398 active agricultural cooperatives in the country, in which 64,700 peasants are organized and the area of land under their cultivation is approximately 102 thousand hectares. This was stated by Soltan Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the PDPA and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA at a session of party and state activists held here on the implementation of the land policy in the country. Touching on the achievements of the cooperatives, he cited, as an example, Zakrullah Shahid Agricultural Cooperative in Jowzjan Province, north of the country, which has 436 peasant members and is collectively working on 1,370 hectares of land.

Soltan Ali Keshtmand added that as a result of the land policy, the annual income of every landless peasant family has risen five times as compared with the pre-revolution period.

Regarding the growth in agricultural production, Soltan Ali Keshtmand said that agricultural production has risen by about 15 percent in the past five years. Agricultural mechanized stations, he added, have increased by five times, veterinary services by 45 percent and plant protection services by 30 percent.

After the victory of the April Revolution of 1978, the state of the DRA has spent over 850 million afghanis on the repair and reconstruction of irrigation systems and have provided the irrigation departments of the provinces with tools and equipment worth 15 million rubles.

Throwing light on the future plan, he said that the next five year plan would be directed towards the increment of agricultural production and the consolidation of revolutionary power in the villages of the country; 5.2 billion afghanis will be allocated for the construction of irrigation systems which is higher by 2.5 times as compared with the past five years. Soltan Ali Keshtmand called upon the Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources to bring 8,000 hectares of virgin land under irrigation in the next five year plan. Regarding private investment on land, chairman of the Council of Ministers said that private entrepreneurs can invest on land for agricultural production with the limitation of six hectares of land or they can receive permission for the establishment of new mechanised farms in the form of economic enterprises beyond the ceiling.

The session was attended by some members of the Politburo and Secretariat of the Central Committee of the PDPA, deputy presidents of the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council, a number of high-ranking party and state officials, heads of peasants cooperatives, agricultural projects and a large number of peasants' epresentatives from all over the country. The session will be continuing for tomorrow.

AL-WATAN Interviews Deputy Defense Minister 'Azimi

GF021543 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 1 Feb 86 pp 1, 13

[Interview with Nabi 'Azimi, Afghan deputy defense minister, by Moscow correspondent Dr Ahmad al-Nu'man, recently sent by *AL-WATAN* to Kabul — date not given]

[Text] [**Ahmad al-Nu'man**] How do you view the issue of ending all foreign interference in Afghanistan and giving the Afghan people the right to self-determination?

[Nabi 'Azimi] This is the intention of the Afghan people and the Afgan Government. The leaders of our country have many times stated that the presence of the limited Soviet forces in Afghanistan is to protect Afghanistan from Pakistani and U.S. interference. We support a peaceful solution to the Afghan cause. And of course, this means ending all interference in our domestic affairs. The United States recently decided to allot $480 million to the elements opposing the revolution in Afghanistan, in addition to providing weapons and training the enemies of Afghanistan in more than 20 camps in Pakistan and 30 other camps in Iran for the same purpose. This is in addition to the camps in the PRC.

[Al-Nu'man] What is the main source of arms for the powers against Afghanistan?
['Azimi] If you visit the revolution museum, you will see a lot of weapons with lables that read: made in the United States of America; FRG, Israel; England; PRC; and Egypt.

[Al-Nu'man] Do you view the U.S.-Israeli threats against Libya and Syria as clear and exposed practices of international terrorism against the Arab liberation movement?
['Azimi] We say, wherever you find a certain crisis, you should look to imperialism. Thus, the U.S.-Israeli threats are forms of interference from these circles. Some of the Arab reactionary powers, including Egypt, support our enemies. But there are many other powers in the Arab world which understand and support us, such as Syria, Libya, and others. We condemn the U.S.-Israeli threats against Libya and Syria.

[Al-Nu'man] Do you believe that Afghanistan is able to militarily decide the issue if a negotiated peace is not reached?
['Azimi] The enemies of the revolution in Afghanistan do not control any area inside Afghanistan, including the region across the Pakistani borders. The hostile powers are trained outside and then come to Afghanistan by infiltrating through our border. About 20,000 armed men infiltrate annually through the border. They set fires, kill, and steal. They blow up hospitals and schools and kill unarmed farmers. Afterward they retreat to their bases in Pakistan, Iran, and the PRC. To answer your question, we have enough soldiers, officers, and military equipment to crush the interference and to safeguard our democratic republic and the safety of its border.

Political Observer on Opposition to Ziaul Haq's Policy

LD030653 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0457 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] Kabul, February 2, BAKHTAR: A political observer of BAKHTAR writes: The broad opposition of the people with Islamabad government has taken ever-greater dimension day by day.

The holding of an extensive political meeting by the opposition parties, including the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy in Lahore, in which the abolution of Zia's regime and restoration of real democracy were demanded, is the best example of the people's opposition to Zia's regime.

The Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, MRD, which unites eleven opposition parties in Pakistan, described the so-called lifting of the military rule and the restoration of democracy by Ziaul Haq as a political deception in order to achieve his sinister aims. The participants at the meeting reiterated decision to continue their struggle for the restoration of real democracy and the overthrow of Zia's regime.

The people of Pakistan know it well that Zia's democracy is nothing more than a clever ploy for his survival in the same way as he employed the mock referendum for keeping himself in power. Zia's tricks could neither deceive the people of Pakistan nor the world public but all have realised the fact that Zia's regime is not only anti-people and undemocratic but was also imposed on the people of Pakistan by the dictates of the U.S imperialism.

Progressive statesmen, national and social figures in Pakistan and even those of Pakistan's Western allies had time and again repeated the fear that the government of General Zia will try to remain in power with a more oppressive essence in a different guise and this fear has been proved real. These factors have caused wrath and indignation of the people of Pakistan against the Islamabad regime.

There are evidences testifying that the anti-people regime of Ziaul Haq's not only taking action for the suppression of its opponents but is striving to convert the soil of Pakistan as the military base of the United States. Right now, the soil of Pakistan is being used as a springboard for subversive activities of CIA against peace-loving countries in the region, especially India and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Islamabad-Washington military deal under which Pakistan receives military aid from the United States worth six billion dollars is testifying to the fact that Pakistan is changing to a military base of Washington.

Islamabad regime continuously provokes tension on the borders of India and is sending to India the Sikh secessionists after training them in subversive and terroristic activities. Islamabad regime is playing a major role in the continuation of the imperialist declared war against the DRA and the process is continuing. The policy of Islamabad regime runs counter to the people's will and thus have evoked the wrath and indignation of all the people of Pakistan. The broad demonstrations of the people against Ziaul Haq's regime in Baluchestan, Quetta, Peshawar and other Pakistani cities are testifying to this fact.

It is no surprise that the voice for the overthrow of the puppet regime is heard everywhere. The goal of the people of Pakistan, including the MRD is the restoration of real democracy which can be realised only with the toppling of Ziaul Haq's regime.

Rebel Leader Discounts Soviet Withdrawal Rumors

PM281605 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 24 Jan 86 p 1

[Report on interview with Afghan mujahidin leader Abdul RasulSayyaf by Hamid al-Huwaymani; date, place not given]

[Text] Afghan mujahidin leader Abdul Rasul Sayyaf has said that the mujahidin actually fully control 90 percent of Afghan territory militarily, politically, and in matters of security. He

added that Afghan forces of the communist lackey government in Kabul and the Soviet occupation forces who control 10 percent of Afghan territory are not in full control of that area because the mujahidin are carrying out intensive and effective operations even there.

In an interview with *AL-JAZIRAH*, he said that the mujahidin are bravely defending the areas under their control where Soviet occupation forces and the lackey government forces are launching savage attacks against the inhabitants of the villages and towns which are under the control and protection of the mujahidin.

Asked what political results he expects from the mujahidin's military successes against the Soviet occupation forces, he said: I expect continuous and effective pressure on the occupation forces and the Afghan lackey forces. That is good and, God willing, it will bring us nearer than at any time before to the fulfillment of our objective of liberating the country from Soviet occupation and from the agent communist regime.

Replying to another question about his opinion of reports originating from Soviet and Afghan communist sources about an imminent withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan, the great struggler Abdul Fasul Sayyaf said: With such false reports the Soviets are trying to trick first, the mujahidin and second, Islamic and world public opinion.

He added that the Soviet forces are intensifying their barbaric attacks against the mujahidin and unarmed people in peaceful towns and villages, while at the same time escalating their deceptive propaganda about their imminent withdrawal from Afghanistan.

We, he continued, do not pay much attention to such rumors because we know the Soviet leaders' real intentions toward our country and Muslim people, particularly in the wake of the grave human and material losses their forces suffered in Afghanistan.

He added: We will continue our struggle and at the same time work for the fulfillment of our great objective of uniting all the mujahidin in order to coordinate the mujahidin's military operations against the occupation forces, forcing them to withdraw or flee and bringing down the lackey communist government. This should not be difficult, once the Soviet occupation forces which protect them from the blows of the mujahidin and the wrath of all the Afghan people have withdrawn or fled.

Asked about the mujahidin getting a seat in the Islamic World League, he said: That is a natural thing because, as I have alredy said, Afghanistan is under the mujahidin's control and therefore the mujahidin are more entitled than Kabul's communist government to represent it in regional and international organizations. The Soviet Union now has two seats in the United Nations, one being its own and the other belonging to the communist government in Kabul which is under Soviet influence.

Struggler Sayyaf stressed the importance of unifying all the mujahidin organizations. There is a coalition of seven organizations at present, he said, but we look forward to expanding this coalition to include all the mujahidin who are joined by their faith and their sole objective of liberating their country and people, defending their religion, and restoring freedom, independence, and national sovereignty to Afghanistan and its Muslim people.

He also said that he and all the mujahidin look forward to more aid from the brothers and friends to enable the struggle to continue and to enable the refugees to have the necessities of life until Almighty God allows them to return to their homes.

SPA: Mujahidin Down Two USSR Helicopters

GF300442 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1500 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] Islamabad, 30 Jan (SPA) — The Afghan Mujahidin downed two Soviet helicopters and a fighter in the region of (Jushti) in Nangarhar Province in eastern Afghanistan on 15 January.

The AFGHAN NEWS AGENCY, the mouthpiece of the Afghan Mujahidin, noted that the Mujahidin killed 70 Soviet invasion and Afghan agent forces and destroyed 7 tanks and a large number of military vehicles during the violent battles they fought using missiles, heavy machineguns, and anti-aircraft guns against these forces stationed in the region.

Continuing Reportage on Sikh Unrest in Punjab

Barnala: Arms in Temple

BK031608 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] The Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has expressed confidence that the SGPC [Shiromani Gurdwar Prabandhak — Sikh Temple Management Committee] will be able to successfully discharge its duty of maintaining law and order inside the Sikh religion places. Talking to newsmen in Chandigarh today, he said according to his information some arms and ammunition have been collected inside the Golden Temple complex. But he hoped that the SGPC will be able to handle the situation.

In reply to a question, Mr Barnala said the state government does not wait for an invitation to act if it senses any threat anywhere in the state.

Mr Barnala reiterated that the meeting convened by a group of people or a single organization cannot be given the name of Sarbat Khalsa [Sikh highest assembly]. He described the happenings inside the Golden Temple complex on the 26th of last month as illegal and against the basic tenets of Sikhism.

Referring to the general law and order situation in the state, Mr Barnala said some miscreants arrested in the state have confessed to having received training, weapons, and instructions from a neighboring country.

Curfew in Jullundur; Terrorist Killed

BK040310 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Indefinite curfew has been clamped since last evening in the subdivisional town of Nakodar in Jullundur District. According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, the curfew was clamped as a precautionary measure in view of tension between two groups of people following an incident at a religious place.

Meanwhile, an alleged terrorist wanted in a number of criminal cases including murder was killed in an encounter with the police last night near Dhariwal in Gurdaspur. He fired upon the police and lobbed a hand grenade. Four policemen were injured, one of them seriously, in the encounter.

Further Details

BK041243 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] In Punjab two persons were killed and five injured when police opened fire to disperse an unruly mob outside the curfew-bound town of Nakodar in Jullundur District this afternoon. According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, the police had to resort to fire in self defense when about 800-strong mob attacked the police party on duty. Indefinite curfew was clamped in Nakodar town last evening following an incident at a local religious place.

Bhagat on Nationals in Aden, Regional Issues

BK030913 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] An Indian vessel is waiting off the coast of Aden, besides a special aircraft for evacuating Indian nationals as soon as the South Yemen authorities give clearance. This was stated by the external affairs minister, Mr Bali Ram Bhagat, while talking to our Gulf correspondent, Premchand Arya, at Dubai airport this morning. Mr Bhagat is on his way to Wahington to attend the India-U.S. joint commission meeting.

About the ethnic issue in Sri Lanka the minister said that repeated assertion of military solution by Colombo to solve the problem has created mort distress among Tamil groups and ethnic leaders. Recent developments are also not conducive to negotiations and settlement. The next move will be decided in the light of any development and the attitude of Sri Lanka Government. On India-Pakistan relations, Mr Bhagat said there will be more exchange of visits in the near future to improve ties.

Official Spokesman on PDRY, Sri Lanka, U.S. Topics

BK031535 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1444 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] Briefing newsmen on developments in Aden (PDRY) the official spokesman said the following on 3 February, 1986: Mr. N.P. Jain, secretary in the External Affairs Ministry, today called in the PDRY ambassador Mr. 'Ali 'Aydarus Yahya to the ministry. He reiterated India's concern about the welfare of Indian nationals still in PDRY. The PDRY ambassador said that his government was extremely sorry that during the recent fighting some Indian nationals had suffered injuries. They were not aware of any Indian nationals having been killed during the course of this fighting. The PDRY ambassador also assured Mr. Jain that his government would accord all necessary facilities to the those Indians who wish to return.

Mr. Jain pointed out that the information regarding 17 Indians having died in the wake of the recent fighting in PDRY had been furnished to us by our charge d'affaires and also by evacuees who have since returned. He asked the ambassamdor to have the matter looked into carefully and also arrange for compensation for the bereaved families. Our charge d'affaires in Aden has also been asked to urgently ascertain the names and other personal particulars of the 17 Indians who are reported to have lost their lives in the crossfire.

Indian Ambassador to PDRY David Manners who is presently in Djibouti has been advised to proceed immediately to Aden as we have been informed that Aden airport is now open. We also propose making arrangements for evacuation by air of around one thousand Indian nationals affected by the recent fighting who we understand wish to return to India.

Responding to newsmen's queries as to what were the "unforeseen developments" warranting postponement of foreign secretary's scheduled visit to Sri Lanka, the spokesman said that the Sri Lankan authorities had sent their response to the TULF proposals barely 48 hours before the foreign secretary's

scheduled departure. These naturally had to be carefully studied before further discussions could be held with Sri Lankan authorities.

Briefing newsmen on external affairs minister's visit to the USA, the spokesman said that he reaches Washington on 4th February at 1500 hrs. On 5th February he will be meeting the national security adviser to the president. The meeting of the joint commission is scheduled for the 6th February when he will be meeting U.S. Secretary of State Mr. Shultz.

The minister will also meet members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

On 7th February he is scheduled to call on president at the White House. He will also address the Centre for Strategic International Studies at Georgetown University on India and the SAARC.

Out-Going Army Chief Lauds Troops at Siachen Glacier
BK310855 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] The outgoing chief of Army staff was given a farewell in New Delhi on his retirement. A guard of honor was presented to him on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, General Vaidya said the Indian Army is fully equipped to protect the Siachen Glacier in the Ladakh region. It is capable of tackling any difficulty in the high altitude areas, he said.

Replying to questions, Gen Vaidya said during his tenure a modernization drive was launched in the Army for introducing sophisticated electronic equipment. The process is still continuing. He stressed the need for indigenization of military hardware.

New Army Chief Urges Restructuring of Armed Forces
BK011626 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Excerpt] General Krishnaswamy Sundarji, who took over as the Army chief today, says India's Armed Forces are taking measures to remain effective both in a conventional war and also to face the threat of nuclear weapons.

In an interview with AIR [All India Radio] correspondent Manohar Takroo, Gen Sundarji said the time has come when a certain amount of restructuring is required to make the army more combat-effective. The arms build-up in the neighborhood has undoubtedly changed the quantitative as well as the qualititative equation and affects our strategic need to deter any potential adversary. He was confident that the country's security will be safeguarded. Referring to the future, he said we are developing a long-term perspective plan and are poised for a takeoff in all major areas of our research and development programs.

In reply to another question, Gen Sundarji said that a vast majority of Sikh soldiers had remained loyal, steadfast, and totally devoted to their duty when a microscopic minority deserted. He pointed out there are more than 50 battalion-size units completely manned by Sikhs. There were desertions in only three of them. Fifty other units have a large proportion of Sikhs and only two of these units had desertions. He said the desertions took place when we were passing through an enormous psychological trauma on account of the events in Amritsar.

Kabul Allegations of Airspace Violation Rejected
BK041525 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1510 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Pakistan has rejected the Kabul regime's protest made yesterday in which it alleges that two Pakistan Air Force aircraft violated Afghanistan's airspace on 28 January and entered Paktia Province up to 28 kms.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office today and told that Pakistan rejects this protest. He was asked to tell his administration to refrain from making such baseless allegations.

Students Attack Catholic Church in Anti-U.S. Protest
HK041340 Hong Kong AFP in English 1229 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Test] Islamabad, Feb 4 (AFP) — Nine persons were injured when 2,000 Pakistani students ransacked a Roman Catholic Church in southern Punjab in an anti-U.S. protest, the church's priest Father John Kitchen said today.

Father Kitchen, reached by telephone by AGENCE-FRANCE PRESSE, said the stick-wielding students attacked the Holy Cross Church yesterday in the town of Rahimyar Khan, about 800 kilometres (500 miles) south of Islamabad.

He said they were protesting against a U.S. veto of a U.N. Security Council resolution condemning the alleged violation by Israeli Jews of the Al-Aqsa Mosque on Jerusalem's Temple Mount, one of Islam's holiest places. Nine Christians, including some children from a nearby mission school, were injured as the protestors threw rocks and bricks, he said.

The demonstration was eventually broken up by police using tear gas. Several thousand Christians were on stike and demonstrating in the grounds of the wrecked church today to protest the attack, he said.

The official news agency ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN reported that in other protests against the veto yesterday demonstrators burned U.S. and Israeli flags and set fire to effigies of israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres.

Commentary on Arab Unity; Support for Libya
BK310736 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 30 Jan 86

[News commentary by A. Syed Khan Qamar]

[Text] The minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Zain Noorani, told the National Assembly that the primary objective of Pakistan's foreign policy is to promote solidarity and unity amongst the Islamic countries. Speaking on a number of identical adjournment motions, the minister of state said that Pakistan has contributed to this aim in concrete and specific ways at every opportunity. Mr Noorani fully supported the integrity of Libya and said it would oppose any foreign military aggression against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. At the same time he also hoped that all Islamic countries will avoid divisions and (?alignments) within the OIC [Organization of Islamic Conference] and unequivocally oppose any act of foreign intervention and aggression against Islamic states whether it is Lebanon, Libya, Tunisia or Afghanistan.

Pakistan has always believed in the universal Muslim unity and no doubt all its foreign policy is based to achieve this unity and friendship in clear terms. Pakistan preaches what it firmly believes in because Pakistan feels that the salvation of the Muslim countries lies in their unity and their resolve to face their common enemy. As such it was obvious that there could be no question of Pakistan remaining unknown by a threat to the security and stability of a brotherly Islamic country.

It may be added that at the 16th Islamic conference of foreign ministers in Fes, Morocco from 6-10 January Pakistan supported the declaration adopted by the conference expressing its complete solidarity with Libya. The president of Pakistan, General Ziaul Haq, as well as the prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, also endorsed the Fes declaration and reiterated Pakistan's firm determination to uphold the sanctity and inviolability of a brotherly Muslim state's territorial integrity and sovereignty.

Pakistan also believes that the threat to the Islamic world must be viewed integrally. Fundamental stand of Pakistan must be seen in the overall context of the policy being pursued by Pakistan toward the welfare of the Islamic world. Pakistan believes that the threat to any Muslim country must be considered as a threat to the entire Muslim world and it should be ascertained that this stand should be forthright and there should be no reservation of any kind in the stand. Instead of dividing itself in different groups and groups of different thinking, it is time for the Muslim world also to rally round at one platform to fight for their cause. The prime aim should be to forge unity and to work collectively for solidarity of Muslim countries. Pakistan believes that if Muslim countries adopt two different ways of dealing [with] things they will be affected.

At the moment the Muslim countries have an Organization of the Islamic Conference which is collectively working for Muslim unity and is pleading the case of Islamic countries which are subjected to threats of aggression. The OIC, according to its charter, is committed to work for the greater understanding among Muslim countries. The OIC believes that Muslim countries, instead of fighting among themselves, must reserve their resources to face their common enemy. A divided Muslim ummah [community] instead of being powerful force is bound to suffer difficulties and will be (?vulnerable) to the foreign forces.

Unfortunately today there are cases of differences which persist among several Muslim countries. This is a sad thing which should engage the attention of the ummah. It is here that Pakistan believes that such differences must be sorted out as soon as possible. As far as Libya is concerned it has the support and sympathy of the entire Islamic ummah and Pakistan is one of them. The leaders of Pakistan have joined hands with the OIC and have assured Pakistan's wholehearted support to Libya against any foreign intervention.

BANGLADESH

Opposition Claims Half-Day Strike Total Success

HK031350 Hong Kong AFP in English 1322 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] Dhaka, Feb 3 (AFP) — The Bangladesh opposition claimed a half-day general strike today to press for an early restoration of democracy was a total success and said an anti-government demonstration would be held here next week. The strike coincided with a work abstention programme by all public servants called by the government to protest the Israeli occupation on Jerusalem.

The government had earlier declared that all government offices, schools and educational institutions, and industrial and commercial establishments throughout the country would remain closed today.

Dhaka and other important cities and towns ground to a virtual standstill during the two parallel actions as all shops, commercial establishments, government and private offices and banks remained closed and vehicles stayed off the streets, eyewitnesses said.

The country's two main opposition alliances of 15 and seven parties and the Moslem fundamentalist Jama'at-e Islami Party claimed the strike they called to press for an early restoration of democracy was a total success. The 15-party alliance issued a statement saying people's spontaneous participation in the strike showed they had no confidence in the military government of President Hussain Mohammad Ershad.

Several rallies, none of which numbered more than 3,000-4,000 people, were held in the capital and opposition picketers shouting anti-government slogans marched through the streets, eyewitnesses said. Middle-ranking leaders of the opposition groups said at the rallies they would hold a massive demonstration here on February 14, when further programmes for anti-government opposition agitation would be announced.

Police stood guard at important public buildings and installations, but no clashes were reported.

SRI LANKA

India's Bhandari Rules Out Immediate Talks

BK041101 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Reports from New Delhi say that the Indian foreign secretary, Romesh Bhandari, has ruled out an immediate resumption of talks with Sri Lanka on the ethnic problem.

Mr Bhandari had told journalists in Madras that there was what he called a yawning gap between the Sri Lankan Government and the Tamil United Liberation Front, who are demanding greater political autonomy for the north. The Indian foreign secretary postponed a 3-day visit to Colombo on Sunday.

Delhi Paper Details Tamil Deaths, Bombing

BK030339 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] At least 90 Tamils have been killed in Sri Lanka over the weekend in various incidents in the north and eastern provinces. The government-owned *DAILY NEWS*, which described them as militants, said at least 60 of them were killed in Kilinochchi and another 30 perished in Kaddaiparichchan, south of Trincomalee.

The national security minister, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, however told the All India Radio Colombo correspondent, Piabon Majumder, that the incidents in Kilinochchi had so far claimed 44 Tamil lives while there has been no loss of life on the army side. As already reported, security forces took recourse to day curfew in Kilinochchi yesterday claiming that 200 armymen had been surrounded by militants. Hundreds of residents moved out of the area as bombing destroyed at least 100 houses. Curfew continued but for a 3-hour respite in the morning. A large number of people have also been arrested in both Kilinochchi and Kaddaiparichchan.

Meanwhile, a blanket curfew was reimposed in a large number of tea estates following fresh incidents of burning of shops and houses and looting. Incidents last week in this area had left five people dead and hundreds homeless.

The rural industries minister, Mr S. Thondaman, whose trade union commands majority among the plantation workers, has appealed to the workers to remain calm in the wake of rumors and to attend to work on the estates as usual.

Further on Kilinochchi Attack

BK031131 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] Fifteen more terrorists were killed and several injured yesterday at Kilinochchi when they attacked a helicopter landing at the patrol base. Security sources told LANKA PUWATH that the terrorists fired mortars at the patrol base.

On Saturday, 29 terrorists were killed at Kilinochchi when they attacked the security forces. The injured terrorists have requested for medical attention from the Kilinochchi hospital, according to reports reaching the patrol base. The base is now moved from earlier location to complete its task and was expected to return to camp last evening.

The curfew was imposed at Kilinochchi to prevent innocent civilians being harmed in the cross fire.

Interior Minister Warns U.S. To Keep Away From Gulf

LD031906 Tehran IRNA in English 1804 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] Bandar-e 'Abbas, Hormozgan Prov., Feb. 3, IRNA — Interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Mohtashami said here Monday that the U.S. would be well advised to keep clear of the waters of the Persian Gulf since the Islamic Republic of Iran is powerfully present there.

Speaking here on the occasion of the seventh anniversary of the Islamic revolution celebrations, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohtashami said that the Iranian people as well as the Islamic government now rightly take pride in having stood against the U.S. for the first time in the history of Iran, and boast of having intercepted and inspected an American ship in the Persian Gulf waters.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohtashami further said that those countries which in the past were frightened of threats made by the deposed shah's and Iraqi Ba'thist regimes, are now relieved because the Islamic revolution of Iran is firmly standing against the U.S. as well as all the aggressors in the region. Therefore he added, nations and governments of the region should review their deliverance from such servitude as one made possible by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The minister said that the east and west, particularly the U.S., cannot stand against Iran as [words indistinct] powerful country. Therefore, he added, the Americans manipulate public opinion throughout the globe against the Islamic republic in a futile effort to offset is appeal.

Further Reportage on Visit of Soviet Minister

Holds Talks With Majlis Speaker, Premier

LD031743 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] Soviet deputy foreign minister Korniyenko met Majlis speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani this afternoon. During the meeting Mr Korniyenko conveyed written messages from the presidents of the two Soviet chambers to Hashemi-Rafsanjani in which the importance of the expansion of relations and exchange of parliamentary delegations was stressed.

During the meeting, the Soviet deputy foreign minister also stressed the further expansion of relations between the two neighboring countries in various fields, on the basis of goodneighborly relations, mutual respect, and noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

Then Hashemi-Rafsanjani thanked him for the messages from the presidents of the two Soviet chambers. He stressed the importance of establishing goodneighborly relations.

The Soviet deputy foreign minister today presented a message from the chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers to Mir Hoseyn Musavi, our country's prime minister. The Soviet deputy foreign minister, in the course of presenting this message, informed Mr Musavi about the desire of his country's officials to expand relaitons with the Islamic Republic of Iran and to consult on international and regional issues, and also presented a report on the efforts he has made in this connection. Then Prime Minister Musavi thanked the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR for his message and explained the policies of the Islamic Republic of Iran based on goodneighborly relations with neighboring countries and described the criteria for expanding links between the two countries.

Received by Khamene'i

LD041024 Tehran IRNA in English 1015 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 4, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i received here Tuesday morning the visiting first deputy foreign minister of the Soviet Union, Georgiy Korniyenko. During the meeting the Soviet official handed over a message from the Soviet president Andrey Gromyko to President Khamene'i. He also conveyed warm greeting of the Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev to President Khamene'i. During the meeting the two sides discussed expansion and strengthening of bilateral ties and good neighbourly relations.

Joint Commission Proposed

LD041129 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i received this morning USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Korniyenko. In this meeting, at which Mr Besharati, our country's deputy foreign minister, and the two countries' ambassador were also present, Mr Korniyenko expressed delight at visiting the Islamic Republic of Iran, conveyed warm greetings from Mr Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and submitted a written friendly message from Mr Andrey Gromyko, president of the USSR, to our country's president. In reply Mr Khamene'i expressed gratitude for the messages of the CPSU general secretary and the president of the USSR. Also during this meeting the expansion and strengthening of bilateral relations and goodneighborliness between the two neighboring countries were stressed.

The Central News Unit correspondent reports that our country's deputy foreign minister, Mr Besharati, described the talks between the Soviet deputy foreign minister and our country's officials as good and successful. He said: During their meetings various issues of mutual interest were discussed and views were exchanged.

During these talks it was also agreed to set up a joint commission led by the two countries' economic and financial ministers. And it was also agreed to establish the Tehran-Moscow air route by the Aeroflot company. He added: On economic issues also the two sides agreed to continue talks in order to improve relations.

Concludes Visit, Departs

LD041046 Tehran IRNA in English 1023 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 4, IRNA — The first deputy foreign minister of the Soviet Union, Georgiy Korniyenko, left Tehran this morn-

ing at the end of a three-day visit and talks with President 'Ali Khamene'i and other Iranian officials.

Korniyenko who led a political delegation to Tehran, described his talks with Iranian officials as "frank, comprehensive and constructive".

He was seen off at Tehran's Mehrabad International Airport by acting Foreign Affairs Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati.

Further Details

LD041113 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Korniyenko, who had come to Tehran at the head of a diplomatic delegation, left Tehran this afternoon following a 3-day official visit. He was seen off by Deputy Foreign Minister Besharati and the ambassadors of the two countries.

Before leaving Tehran Mr Korniyenko called the meetings and talks with Iranian officials beneficial and satisfactory. He said: The meetings with the Iranian officials were constructive. Mutual relations and international issues of interest to both sides were discussed in the meetings. He added: We wish to continue diplomatic talks. We consider this trip a step in that direction.

Prime Minister Criticizes Falling Oil Price

LD031231 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1135 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, 3 Feb (JANA) — Prime Minister of Iran Mir Hoseyn Musavi has reiterated the support of the leadership and people of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Libyan Arab people in their resistance to the U.S. provocations and threats.

Mir Hoseyn Musavi informed the JANA correspondent in Tehran that the freedom of the Libyan Arab people and their leadership is of extreme importance with regard to the Iranian revolution. He said: "This motivates us to continue our support to the Libyan Arab people without any reservations and we will stand by Libya's side to face any aggressive threats."

Musavi emphasized the importance of and need for an alliance of countries which are against U.S. imperialism and against the Zionist enemy, pointing out that "one of the imperialist plots against the peoples of the region is the decrease in oil prices. The progressive countries which are OPEC members must work more closely than before in order to make this plot fail."

Majlis Commission Issues Statement on Oil Policy

LD031235 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, on the eve of the OPEC special committee session in Vienna, the Majlis Foreign Policy Commission issued a statement calling on OPEC members to demonstrate their unity and decisiveness to counter the policies pursued by the oil plunderers, thus making such policies futile. The statement emphasizes: In order to counter such plots we must reduce oil production and to put up with the short-term consequences; procrastination in this regard would result in the weakening of our economic weapon against this new arrogant onslaught.

Furthermore, the statement adds, the price war is a direct political move against the weak oil-exporting countries. This political move cannot be countered without giving priority to OPEC's long-term political considerations as well as to the interests of nations.

The statement calls on the Islamic Republic's Foreign Ministry to bear the issue and its political significance in mind and to reconsider its relations with the countries that play an effective role in the promotion of such a plot in any manner and, accordingly, to adopt an appropriate policy.

Aqazadeh To Meet With Libyan, Algerian Counterparts

LD031912 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] According to a Central News Unit Report, within the framework of the relations between the Iranian, Algerian and Libyan governments, this afternoon, Petroleum Minister Aqazadeh left for Tripoli at the invitation of Libyan Petroleum Minister Al-Shakshuki. The talks, which will be attended by Algerian Energy Minister Nabi, will start on a trilateral basis in Tripoli tomorrow.

The ministers of the three countries will review the latest developments on the oil market, the oil glut -- which is caused by some non-OPEC producing countries with the cooperation of some OPEC countries -- and the various ways to combat efforts that result in the weakening of the oil market and an increase in production.

It should be pointed out that the meeting between the oil ministers of Iran, Algeria and Libya will be held at a time when the OPEC special session, chaired by the Venezuelan oil minister, in Vienna, has not reached an effective conclusion concerning serious decisions to control production and market.

Arrives in Tripoli

LD040727 Tehran IRNA in English 0723 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, Feb. 4, IRNA — The Iranian Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh arrived here Monday night heading a delegation for talks with Libyan and Algerian oil ministers on a coordinated action to encounter plots to reduce oil prices. The Algerian Minister of Energy and Petrochemical Industry Belkacem Nabi, also arrived here to take part in the tripartite talks.

Speaking to IRNA after his arrival, Aqazadeh said that the trip was taking place prior to the forthcoming emergency meeting of OPEC members in Vienna, and the idea was to provide the three progressive countries of OPEC, Libya, Algeria and Iran, to make a unified decision in preventing oil price decline. He hoped that more countries would join the progressive trend in OPEC to

thwart plot of U.S. and other industrialized countries, including Britain, to reduce oil prices.

The Libyan Oil Minister Fawzi Al-Shaksnuki, told IRNA that the OPEC members while maintaining the OPEC price, should observe production quotas.

Foreign Ministry Official Meets With Benjedid

GF040648 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Mr Mohammad Javad Larijani, under secretary in charge of international and economic affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, currently visiting Algeria for talks with the Algerian officials about the world oil market and the U.S. and Western plot to bring down oil prices, yesterday met with Chadli Benjedid, president of Algeria. During the meeting Javad Larijani delivered a message from Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, to the Algerian president.

According to IRNA, at this meeting, which also included officials of the Algerian Foreign Affairs Department and the Iranian ambassador in Algeria, the world oil market and mutual relations between the two countries were discussed.

Further on Deputy Oil Minister's Visit to Saudi Arabia

Presents Khamene'i Note for King

GF021548 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1515 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] Riyadh, 2 Feb (SPA) — Foreign Minister His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal received in his office this morning Iran's deputy oil minister, Hoseyn Kazempur Ardabili, who is carrying a message from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i to His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The meeting was attended by Ambassador Ahmad Mu'min, director of the Asian department and Iranian charge d'affairs in the Kingdom.

Meets With King Fahd

GF040605 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Mr Kazempur-Ardabili, under secretary of the Oil Ministry, currently visiting Riyadh, called on King Fahd yesterday afternoon and delivered to him a message from Mr Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic, concerning the current oil situation.

During the meeting, the king of Saudi Arabia referred to the superpower antagonism against Islam. He said: We believe that if we have a problem we must discuss it with our Iranian brothers to obtain a like-minded view regarding it. The king added: A concensus with you would be very useful, and so we seek it. The king of Saudi Arabia stressed that the Muslims have many enemies. He said: How can we allow any person to disrupt the oil situation? If these problems are handled wisely they can be solved.

Later, Mr Kazempur-Ardabili said: We are witnessing a plot in oil matters whose authors plan to (?plunder) Muslim wealth. We live in a period of historical testing and the Islamic community expects action from us. We are not against the idea of OPEC having a greater share in the world oil market. However, it should not lead to the cheap sale of Muslim oil reserves. The prices being discussed these days can only benefit the interests of the oil consuming countries and work as a bonus for them instead of a weapon against them. [sentence as heard] Unfortunately, a part of the negative propaganda about a reduction in oil prices has proven effective. We must find other ways to influence non-OPEC oil-producing countries. If every country follows its own interests, all will be adversely affected. In this matter, both of our countries, as owners of major oil reserves, must show a closer relationship.

In response, King Fahd said: The oil-purchasing countries have done their best to injure OPEC. They want prices to plunge. We must resist this and we must expect hardships along the way. However, things will come out right in the end. The demand for OPEC oil will increase. I will discuss the matter of oil prices with the officials involved.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Iraq Continues Attacks on Residential Areas

LD041142 Tehran IRNA in English 1123 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 4, IRNA — Iran Monday called on the United Nations to use its influence and guarantee fill observance of the June 12, 1985 agreement calling on Iran and Iraq to halt attacks on residential areas. Speaking to IRNA, Foreign Ministry director general for International affairs Mohammad Ja'far Mahalati said that Iran stood by its commitment and observed the agreement.

He condemned Iraq's refusal of guaranteeing the security of a U.N. delegation to visit residential areas devastated in Marivan and Robat townships, Western Iran, by the Baghdad regime. He cited various Iraqi attacks on residential quarters in Iran including missile attack against Dezful which claimed the lives of 75 civilians and an air raid on a war refugee camp in Ziveh, northwest of Iran in which 142 civilians were martyred and 300 others injured.

Mahalati stressed that the Iraqi regime has never stopped its attacks on civilian areas, adding that numerous instances of these attacks have been confirmed by the U.N. fact-finding delegations. However, he added, the U.N. secretary general has admitted that in many cases the Iraqi regime has refused to guarantee security of the U.N. delegations. On the contrary Iran is always willing to undertake such a responsibility.

He said that the Islamic Republic of Iran has embarked on retaliatory measures after first notifying the U.N. secretary general followed by a warning to the inhabitants of target cities to evacuate the area.

Mahalati said that violation of the June 12, 1985 agreement was not the sole instance of Iraqi infringement of international reg-

violations, adding that it had also violated the 1907 Hague Treaty and the annexed protocol to the 1949 Geneva conventions. He called on the U.N. to make efforts to ensure implementation of June 12, 1985 agreement and deplored Security Council's failure in assisting the U.N. secretary general in this respect. He stressed that in case the U.N. did not fulfill its responsibility, Iran will resort to retaliation as the last possible means.

The U.N. Security Council, Mahalati said, in mid spring last year, released a statement in which Iraqi deployment of chemical weapons had been denounced and Iraq was asked to observe international regulations on residential areas. Therefore, he added, the council was responsible to guarantee observation of the June 12, 1985 agreement and should make up for its past failure in this connection.

Communique No 2,370

LD031656 Tehran IRNA in English 1644 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 3, IRNA — At least 10 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and several of their bunkers and mortar launchers were demolished in the western fronts Sunday as their positions were pounded by Iranian Muslim combatants, according to a military communique released by the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran here Monday.

In its communique number 2,370, the command says that in the western fronts Iranian Muslim forces while checking the movements of Iraqi vehicles despatched patrols and shelled Iraqi positions killing or wounding a number of Iraqi soldiers.

In the southern fronts, the communique says, Iranian forces checked the movements of two Iraqi armoured units with a capacity of 15 tanks each in Yebis and Chananeh and elsewhere in Nahr-Anbar they halted engineering operations of Iraqi forces Sunday.

The transport of an Iraqi group comprising 30 soldiers around Chananeh and the movements of Iraqi vehicles in Faqqeh were also checked by Iranian combatants, according to the communique. Iranian forces despatched reconnaissance patrols [words indistinct] Sunday inflicting substantial casualties and losses on the enemy. Meanwhile, Iraqi long-range artillery fire on the city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province Sunday caused minor damage.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

5 FEBRUARY 1986

Israeli Interception of Libyan Plane

In the wake of the Israeli interception. forced landing on occupied soil, and subsequent release of a Libyan executive jet on 4 February, Jerusalem television said Israel apparently believed Palestinian leaders Ahmad Jibril, George Habash, Nayif Hawatimah, and Colonel Sa'id Musa were aboard. Meanwhile, Jerusalem radio acknowledged the "error" by Israeli intelligence. The decision to intercept the plane was made by Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, and Chief of Staff Moshe Levi, IDF radio disclosed. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir defended the action in remarks cited by the radio, stating that it was one of the measures Israel "had to adopt in order to defend ourselves."

For Syria's part, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' denounced Israel's "air piracy" in statements reported by Damascus radio. Warning that Syria will not "sit back with folded arms in the face of such aggression," Khaddam said Israel should realize that its attempts to control the region's airspace will create a "grave situation." Al-Shar' announced that Syria has requested an immediate meeting of the UN Security Council to discuss the incident, according to the radio, and the Syrian chief of staff warned that Syria will choose the way, time, and place to respond to Israel's "crime." Al-Ahmar also commented on Syria's response to Israel's "cowardly act" in a statement broadcast by the radio after his return to Damascus. While Syria could prevent civilian aircraft flying to Israel, he said, Syria will not resort to such "lowly, terrorist schemes" but will consider "suitable means" of responding.

A Tripoli radio commentary viewed the Israeli action as "new proof" that "the barbarous Zionists are the only element of terrorism in this region" and that the Middle East will not be peaceful or stable unless Israel is "destroyed forever." Telling those Arabs who call for peace with Israel to abandon their "illusions," the radio said the Arabs have the right to pursue "Zionist killers" throughout the world. The radio had earlier interrupted its reportage of the "pan-Arab command" meeting in Tripoli to announce the interception, claiming that U.S. naval units gave Israel "full information" about the movements of the Libyan plane. Pan-Arab command resolutions reported by the radio include a call to establish a revolutionary strike force and suicide groups to hit U.S. interests in reply to any attack against any Arab country.

In further Arab reaction, Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, Saudi King Fahd, and Jordanian King Husayn all denounced the Israeli "air piracy" in telephone calls to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Damascus radio disclosed. the Iranian Foreign Ministry also condemned Israel's "air piracy" in a statement cited by Tehran radio, while an Iraqi official statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio deplored the "cowardly, criminal act against the Libyan plane and its passengers." In Cairo, the Egyptian foreign minister stressed that his country does not approve of the interception of civilian planes, MENA reported.

Taba Talks

The Israeli delegation arrived in Cairo 5 February to participate in the new round of talks on the Taba issue, MENA reported. In remarks cited by the agency, President Husni Mubarak denied U.S. media claims that he is trying to "cut off" the Taba negotiations, and he stressed that Egypt is "very flexible" on the issue.

Iran-Iraq War; Gulf Shipping

Iraq has publicly executed 11 Iraqis and 4 Iranians for planning car bomb attacks in Iraq, Iraqi security chief 'Ali Hasan al-Majid disclosed in an interview with Baghdad's *ALIF-BA'* reported by AFP. Al-Majid said the 15 saboteurs were caught thanks to information received from "friends" in Syria.

PLO Affairs

Khalid al-Hasan has decided to "suspend" his membership in the Fatah Central Committee to protest PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's refusal to recognize UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, Palestinian sources told the UAE's *AL-BAYAN*, WAKH reported. Meanwhile, in an interview with the UAE's *AL-ITTIHAD*, PLO Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi called on the United States to "improve" Resolution 242 by including Palestinian self-determination and other "rights." The U.S. insistence that the PLO accept the resolution as it stands is unacceptable, Qaddumi said.

Syria-Jordan

Due to "developments in Beirut," Syrian President al-Asad has postponed his visit to Jordan which had been scheduled for the end of this week, Jordanian sources told Kuwait's *AL-QABAS*, QNA reported.

DRA

Eighty DRA soldiers died 28 January in a raid near Estalef, Western diplomatic sources told AFP. In Kabul, a 122-mm rocket landed in the courtyard of the U.S. mission 31 January, damaging windows but causing no casualties, the sources added. In a separate incident, rebel forces executed eight DRA officials following a summary trial by an "Islamic resistance court," AFP later reported.

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U.S. Mission in Kabul Damaged by Rocket Fire

HK041346 Hong Kong AFP in English 1234 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Islamabad, Feb 4 (AFP) — Two rockets were fired on Kabul airport Friday and another landed in the courtyard of the U.S. mission in the capital, as fighting continued on other Afghan fronts, Western diplomats here said today.

The rocket at the U.S. mission burst windows but caused no casualities. The diplomats said it was not certain who fired the 122 mm rocket. Afghan rebels have generally used lighter, 107 mm rockets. Automatic arms fire was also heard at the airport for more than an hour.

Two armored vehicles carrying bloodied soldiers with several chained prisoners following behind were seen north of Kabul last week on the road to the Soviet base at Dar ol-Aman, according to reliable sources quoted by the diplomats. They thought the convoy was returning from an operation in Rish Khvor.

In other action north of the capital, 80 Afghan soldiers were reportedly killed January 28 in a raid near Estalef in the Shomali region, later triggering a bomb attack on the village by Soviet soldiers. Serious fighting was also been reported in the Panjsher region northeast of Kabul, with heavy losses on both sides, the diplomats said.

Guerrilla activity in the southern part of the country near Qandahar, where the rebels have long been fairly active, has reportedly been cut by half recently. The diplomats said this was due to the decision last year by former guerrilla leader, Asmatullah Ashakzai Muslim, and his several-thousand man militia to back the Kabul regime.

Pakistani Reconnaisance Flights Protested

LD041618 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] The charge d'affaires of the Embassy of Pakistan in Kabul was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 1430 yesterday afternoon [3 February]. The director of the First Political Department stated by following:

According to reports by the relevant DRA authorities, despite the repeated protests by the DRA, the Pakistani military authorities continue their interference and aggression on DRA soil. On 9 Dalw [29 January] at 1415 two Pakistani fighter aircraft carried out a reconnaissance flight 25 to 28 km inside Afghan air space for 3 minutes at Jasi Meydan District, Paktia Province. The aircraft again resumed their reconniassance flight at 1435, 30 to 35 km inside Afghan territory for 7 minutes in the same region.

The DRA Government condemns this provocative and irresponsible aggression by the Pakistani Armed Forces and lodges a strong protest against the Government of Pakistan. It demands the military authorities of Pakistan put an end to such provocative actions, which will only aggravate the situation in the region; otherwise, the responsibility of their heavy and dangerous consequences will rest with the Pakistani authorities.

Also, the Pakistani military authorities, in order to divert the attention of the people of Pakistan from the internal troubles and explosions taking place in that country, has claimed that on 27 January two Afghan helicopters had fired rockets at Parachinar and northwest of Parachinar [Pakistan]. After a comprehensive assessment and investigation, the DRA Government states this claim is groundless. It resolutely refutes the claim and states that the Pakistani authorities should stop spreading such lies, which only aggravate the border situation.

Karmal Interviewed on Arab-Afghan Ties, Israel

LD311059 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0853 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Kuwait, 31 January — In an interview published here today, Afghan President Babrak Karmal said that his country is working hard to end the armed conflict between the two Islamic countries of Iraq and Iran, pointing out that the continuation of this war is "senseless," and harms both countries. He also accused Israel of training the Afghani opposition.

Karmal, in an interview with the Kuwaiti paper *AL-WATAN*, said that the Iraq-Iran war, which is causing all this bloodshed and losses in life and economy, serves only the interests of those countries which helped to inflame the war by providing the necessary climate for their military presence and for controlling the naval and air routes of the region. He pointed out that the Afghan people and the government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan "are working most sincerely" to end this devastating war between the two Islamic countries.

Karmal attacked the present Iranian regime's idea of exporting the revolution, saying that "it is not an Islamic ideology and has nothing to do with Islamic thought, either from far or near." He added: "I would like to point out that terrorist gangs are also being trained in Iran; they are then sent to Afghanistan to shed the blood of Muslims."

Speaking on Arab-Afghan relations, Karmal said that his country seeks to bolster its relations with all countries, irrespective of their political and social systems, on a basis of peaceful coexistence, nonalignment and respect for national independence. He added: "We concentrate our attention on bolstering relations with the fraternal Islamic countries, and we are happy to state that we have good relations with the majority of these countries, such as Syria, the PDRY, Libya, and other progressive countries."

Asked about the current Middle East crisis peace initiatives, Karmal said that "historic experience clearly shows that the concessions made by the Arab countries do not help to bring closer a solution to the Middle East crisis; on the contrary, they further whet Israel's appetite for carrying out further aggressions against the Arab peoples."

The Afghan president attacked U.S. plans for solving the Middle East question, and said that the isolationist transactions which the United States embarked upon under the Camp David accords was the road to capitulation, which conflicts with the interests of the region's peoples." He also said that Israel is playing a basic role in the undeclared war against Afghanistan "within the

framework of the satantic military intervention in our country." He added that Israeli interference in his country is escalating.

In conclusion he said that the "Israelis make numerous visits to the camps of the elements opposing the revolution, based in the neighboring countries, to issue instructions." He added that due to the promises made by these officials [as received] to increase the volume of aid to the enemies of the revolution, the "opposition elements which are hostile to us, have been working to escalate the hostility against us and escalate sabotage in our country."

Public Health, Finance Officials Appointed
LD041759 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Proposed by the Ministry of Public Health and approved by the DRA Council of Ministers, Dr. Muhammad Asaf Charwal, nonparty, and Dr Muhammad 'Azim Karimzad, nonparty, have been appointed deputy ministers in the Ministry of Public Health.

Also proposed by the Ministry of Finance and approved by the DRA Council of Ministers, Zakim Shah, nonparty, has been appointed deputy minister in the Ministry of Finance.

Six Rebels 'Crushed' in Herat Province
LD041757 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] A BIA correspondent reports from Herat Province that, as a result of a successful operation mounted by the country's vigilance forces in Koshk District, Herat Province, six counterrevolutionary elements belonging to the Gulbuddin band were crushed.

Some six assorted weapons and a number of antistate documents and propaganda leaflets, linking the band with agent bands abroad, were captured. The report adds that in the course of the operation a DShK belonging to the enemy was destroyed.

Rebels Execute 8 Army Officers After Summary Trial
HK050438 Hong Kong AFP in English 0406 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Islamabad, Feb 4 (AFP) — Afghan insurgent rebels have executed eight Afghan Army officials after a summary trial by an Islamic resistance court, the pro-resistance AFGHAN ISLAMIC PRESS (AIP) reporter today.

It said mujahidins from the Hezbe-Eslami Party's two factions headed by engineer Gulbuddin Hikmatyar and Muhammad Yunis Khalis, attacked a government post five kilometers (three miles) from the Towr Kham borders at Kama Daka on January 29 and killed about a dozen soldiers in the first assault. They reportedly destroyed one jeep and a tank and arrested another 12 Afghan Army officers and several commissioned officers.

The prisoners were tried by an Islamic mujahidins' court and eight of them were found to be "willing supporters" of the Soviet-backed communist regime in Kabul, AIP said. All those convicted were executed, it added.

The incident follows a recent spate of executions, announced by Radio Kabul, of jailed mujahidins by Afghan Government authorities.

Mujahidin Shell Airport; 80 Karmal Soldiers Killed
GF041355 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Afghan mujahidin shelled targets at Kabul airport. The area surrounding the Soviet Embassy was also shelled. Western diplomatic sources said that about 80 members of the Babrak Karmal regime forces were killed during fierce fighting which took place last week between the mujahidin and the Afghan regime forces in a village north of Kabul.

The sources also said that both sides suffered heavy casualties during fierce fighting in the strategic Panjsher Valley 50 miles north of Kabul, during the past 2 weeks. Soviet aircraft carried out retaliatory raids on a number of villages in the area.

Sikh Deportation, Extradition Ruled Out by UK

BK041501 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1435 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Spokesman [not further identified] while briefing the press stated that his Royal Highness Crown Price Harald of Norway called on president and prime minister today. His royal highness also visited the Raj Ghat [Mahatma Gandhi mausoleum].

While answering queries relating to extradition from Britain, spokesman stated that the British Government in a written communication on 25 November 1984 had in effect ruled out the possibility of extradition, deportation of known extremists resident in the United Kingdom. He therefore termed the reports that India had not asked for extradition as baseless.

On the subject of curbing narcotics, the spokesman stated that the Indian Government has received requests from some governments to station officers in Delhi to deal with narcotics. These requests are receiving due consideration. However, no decisions have yet been taken. Spokesman further added that India's efforts to control narcotics is second to none.

Bhagat Expresses 'Concern'

BK050308 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr B.R. Bhagat, has voiced India's concern at the spurt of extremist activities in Britain. He warned that the close Indo-British ties may be adversely affected unless prompt and effective action is taken by the British authorities to deal with the situation. Mr Bhagat, who made a stopover at London on his way to Washington, told PTI that it is the responsibility of the British Government to provide protection to the members of the Indian community there.

Further Reportage on Sikh Unrest in Punjab

Death Toll Reaches 4

BK050320 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] In Punjab, the death toll in yesterday's police firing in the curfew-bound Nakodar town in Jullundur District has risen to four. According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, while 2 persons died on the spot, 2 of the 10 injured succumbed to their injuries last night. The spokesman said about a 1000-strong violent mob, trying to defy the curfew in the town, attacked a police party on duty. The police resorted to firing when a lathi [baton] charge and tear gas shells failed to control the mob.

Meanwhile, the Punjab government has ordered a magisterial inquiry into the incident. The chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has expressed grave concern over the incident. In a statement in Chandigarh, he appealed to the people to remain vigilant against the forces who are out to divide the people and divert their attention from the real issues facing the state.

Further Details

HK050134 Hong Kong AFP in English 0020 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] New Delhi, Feb 4 (AFP) — Five persons were killed including three in police firing and five others injured in the north Indian state of Punjab during the past 24 hours, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA reported. Three persons were killed in police firing on a violent group of supporters of the militant All-India Sikh Students Federation (AISSF) at Nakodar Town in Jullundur District today.

Surjit Singh Barnala, who heads the moderate Akali Dal party government in the state, tonight ordered a magisterial inquiry into the police firing at Nakodar where curfew was clamped as a precautionary measure as tension mounted following the burning of few copies of the holy book of Sikhs in a shrine on Sunday night, PTI said. Earlier an AFP reporter at Amritsar in a despatch said the trouble sparked off following burning down of a Sikh shrine at Nakodar allegedly by Shiv Sena, a militant Hindu organisation.

PTI reports said that police resorted to firing to disperse the violent mob after baton charges and teargas proved ineffective to control an 800-strong mob of AISSF supporters who attacked them. Two persons were killed on the spot while one of the five injured succumbed to his injuries after in hospital, the agency said. Of the two others killed one person was stabbed to death outside a cinema hall at Ludhiana Monday night by two unidentified persons; the victim was also not identified. The fifth victim, Gulzar Singh, described as a proclaimed offender and a wanted "terrorist" was killed in Gurdaspur District in an encounter with police Monday night.

Meanwhile, tight security arrangements have been made along the Jammu and Kashmir border with Pakistan in the wake of a report that Pakistan-trained militants were planning to enter the state and Punjab for "subversion and sabotage", another PTI dispatch from Jammu said tonight. Quoting an official spokesman the agency said that patrolling the border has been intensified and all sensitive points identified for infiltration completely sealed. The spokesman said there were reports that the trained "terrorists" had planned their entry into the state and Punjab with a "definite plan of sabotage" to be staged after a moderate-sponsored Sikh convention to be held next Sunday at the Golden Temple. The convention is expected to "annul" some actions taken by a militant convention held on January 26, observers said.

Congress-I Candidate Loses Mahrashtra By-Election

BK031651 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Excerpt] In Mahrashtra, the Janata Party candidate, Mr Sambaji Pawar, has won the by-election to the state assembly from the Sangli constituency. He defeated his nearest Congress-I rival, Mr Vishnu Pant Patil, by 2,600 votes. Mr Pawar had the support of all the opposition parties. The by-election was caused by the resignation of the former chief minister, Mr Vasantrao Patil, following his appointment as governor of Rajasthan. This is the first time since 1952 that the Congress has lost this assembly seat.

Kabul Allegations of Airspace Violation Rejected

BK041525 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1510 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Pakistan has rejected the Kabul regime's protest made yesterday in which it alleges that two Pakistan Air Force aircraft violated Afghanistan's airspace on 28 January and entered Paktia Province up to 28 kms.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office today and told that Pakistan rejects this protest. He was asked to tell his administration to refrain from making such baseless allegations.

Yaqub Khan Expresses Concern Over U.S. Veto at UN

BK041541 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan told the National Assembly this evening that Pakistan is deeply concerned that the United States vetoed a resolution about Al-Quds [Jerusalem] in the UNSC [United Nations Security Council] and obstructed the adoption of measures intended to express the Islamic world's concern at the desecration of the Al-Aqsa Mosque in occupied Jerusalem.

In a statement to the house, he said this is an issue causing great anguish and anger in the whole Muslim community.

He said the U.S. ambassador in Islamabad was summoned to the Foreign Office on Sunday [2 February] and was asked to apprise his government of Pakistan's sentiments and concerns.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan expressed the hope that the United States would not only realize the feelings and thinking of the people and government of Pakistan, but would respect the feelings of the whole Islamic world and stress to Israel that it should desist from further descration of Al-Aqsa Mosque.

Airliner Makes Emergency Landing in Islamabad

BK041027 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] A PIA [Pakistan International Airlines] Boeing 747 which was on a flight from Karachi to Islamabad this morning had to make a belly-landing at Islamabad airport.

All the 265 passengers and crew on board are safe.

A PIA spokesman said that only two passengers received minor injuries while being evacuated from the plane through the escape route. They were given prompt medical treatment.

The spokesman said the cause of the aircraft belly landing had not immediately been determined, but an enquiry is underway. The PIA chairman, who is also the secretary of defense, went to Islamabad airport soon afterwards.

BANGLADESH

Rival Student Groups Clash at Dhaka University

HK041016 Hong Kong AFP in English 1004 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Dhaka, Feb 4 (AFP) — Several people were injured and at least three residential buildings vandalised when rival student groups clashed today on the Dhaka University campus, eyewitnesses said.

Several rounds of blank ammunition were fired and grenades were set off in the fighting which continued for about two hours, campus sources said.

University authorities confirmed continuing campus trouble but said they could not estimate the number of injured or determine the extent of damage done during the clashes.

A meeting is to be held later today to review the situation, officials said.

Police sources said forces had been sent to the campus to end the fighting, but they could not immediately say whether any arrests had been made.

The clashes broke out this morning between pro-government students and supporters of the Central Students Action Committee (CSAC), a united platform of several anti-government student organisations affiliated with the political opposition, informed sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

Dhaka University has traditionally functioned as a hot-bed of student politics and activism with frequent unrest and armed violence which last month led to the resignation of Vice Chancellor Muhammad Shamsul Huq.

Eyewitness reports said that after this morning's violence, CSAC supporters had ransacked three residential buildings and burnt down the office of the pro-government Natun Bangla Student Front.

SRI LANKA

President Vows To Destroy Terrorism 'This Year'

HK040634 Hong Kong AFP in English 0533 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Colombo, Feb 4 (AFP) — President Junius Jayewardene in an independence day message today vowed to destroy terrorism this year, referring to a bloody militant Tamil campaign for a separate state in the country's north and east.

He said the separatist drive was aimed at "destroying democracy and abrogating the will of the people... dismembering the country and halting its social, economic and political development." Sri Lanka will "this year overcome, destroy and eradicate terrorism," he said.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the miliants were preparing an offensive against the security forces. He said the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO), a major militant group based in Madras, India, and other separatist groups were gathering fighting cadres in the north-northeast, particularly in Mullaitivu, for a major attack.

The TELO yesterday had charged that Sri Lanka's security forces were planning a major anti-Tamil offensive to begin by the end of this month, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) news agency said.

Today's celebrations for Sri Lanka's 38th year of independence from Britain took place by the parliamentary complex at Sri Jayawardhanapura without an armed services parade. The emphasis was on religious observances and school children who paraded before the nation's leaders.

Independence Day Strike Detailed

BK050344 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Sri Lanka observed its 38th anniversary of independence yesterday with almost the entire north and the east preferring to remain mute spectators and the central highlands reeling under communal tension.

The eastern town of Batticaloa observed complete hartal [strike], with all shops closed and transport off the road. The protest was against the killings and arrests in (Rudiapuram) on the 19th of last month, desecration of churches, and harassment of priests by the security forces.

All the churches and Hindu organizations decided to keep away from the celebrations and instead pray for the country.

In Jaffna there was no ceremony; instead black flags were flown.

The AIR [All India Radio] Colombo correspondent, Piabon Majumdar, reports that independence day and its eve claimed at least 25 Tamil lives at Mullaitivu. Twenty of them, described as militants, were killed, and security forces fired at boats claiming that they were trying to escape from the Sri Lankan territorial waters after an attack on the Army. Unconfirmed reports, however, indicated that Mullaitivu came under heavy fire from naval craft and the Army camp.

About 150 patients from the hospital close to the Army camp had to be evacuated as naval fire continued demolishing houses in an otherwise deserted town.

Police Arrest 21 'Hardcore Terrorists' 2 Feb

BK041105 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Police commandos of the special task force arrested 21 hardcore terrorists belonging to the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam in the Eastern Province.

Security sources said that 75 terrorist suspects were taken into custody during a day long operation on Sunday [2 February]. On interrogation 21 of these suspects were found to be hardcore terrorists.

20 Terrorist Casualties Reported in Army Fire

BK051059 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Twenty terrorist casualties were reported at Mullaittivu yesterday when security forces effectively repulsed a terrorist attack. Security sources told LANKA PUWATH that a security forces party from the Mullaittivu camp was on their way to collect water when they were fired upon by terrorists. Troops including armored cars were rushed to the Mullaittivu town under air cover from a gunship immediately.

Terrorists attempting to escape in two boats were fired at by the ground troops and the gunship. One boat capsized and 20 terrorist casualties were reported.

Foreign Affairs Official on Relations With Israel

BK251009 Colombo SUN in English 17 Jan 86 p 1, 13

[By Zacki Jabbar]

[Text] Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Tyronne Fernando on Wednesday dispelled fears that the presence of Israelis in Sri Lanka meant the government's foreign policy on West Asia had changed. Terrorism and the security situation in the country drove us to seek military assistance from the Israelis. However, this was only a temporary measure the Deputy Minister assured.

Delivering a lecture on "Sri Lanka's foreign policy on West Asia with particular reference to Palestine," at Hotel Ranmuthu, Mr Fernando said as soon as the terrorist problem was solved the Israelis would leave the country.

Regarding the Palestinian issue, he stressed that in the ongoing peace process between the Israelis and the Palestinians, the latter remained the main concern of the Sri Lankan government. "We are a free country and have very cordial ties with all others. Maybe we are closer to some, more than others. However, we should be watchful of our enemies as well as our friends," he said.

The Deputy Minister denied that the setting up of the Israeli interests section would eventually lead to full diplomatic relations with Israel.

The conflict between the Americans and Libyans had not changed the policy of our government in any way. The government did not intend to cow down to any superpower. The signing of the barter agreement with the Chinese Government in the face of American threats was ample proof of this, the Deputy Minister said.

UK Official Seeks Release of Kidnapped Journalist

BK031123 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] A senior official of the British High Commission in Colombo is in Jaffna to try and secure the release of the British citizen, Mrs Penelope Willis, who was kidnapped by the Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students — EROS.

EROS claims that Mrs Willis, who calls herself as a freelance writer, had seen a number of people in Colombo, including those involved with security. They said this leads room for a lot of suspicion as to her real motive in going to the north. Mrs Willis was kidnapped on 17 January.

Foreign Ministry Condemns Israeli 'Air Piracy'

GF050522 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] In connection with the hijacking of the Libyan passenger airline by Israeli jets, the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran has issued a statement. In this statement the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly condemns the action of the occupationist regime in Israel.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry also condemns the air piracy committed with the help of the U.S. warships in Mediterranean, a sign of impudence by the Zionist regime of Israel, and considers it as a sign of growing U.S. support for that regime. It also considers this action to be a violation of international law.

The communique also says it is essential that various states and international bodies take a determined action to stop such incidents and punish the state terrorism by the Israel regime.

Further Details

LD051025 Tehran IRNA in English 1009 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 5, IRNA — A Foreign Ministry spokesman here Tuesday strongly condemned the air piracy of the Zionist regime and forcing a Libyan passenger plane to land in the occupied Palestine, Tuesday.

It said that this act of piracy carried out in collaboration with the U.S. war fleet in the Mediterranean Sea, showed impudence of the Zionist regime and the increasing support of the U.S. Administration for it.

"This terrorist act", he added, "was a flagrant violation of international laws and a threat to security of passenger flights and endangering lives of innocent travelers."

All countries of the world and the international circles, it pointed out, should take a decisive measure in putting an end to such acts and punishing the Zionist regime which is the mastermind of government terrorism.

The Libyan liner was en route from Tripoli to Damascus Tuesday when it was forced by two Zionist fighters to land in a military airport in occupied Palestine. The plane was carrying a Syrian political delegation. Later on Tuesday the plane flew to Syria, landed in Damascus and all its passengers were safe.

Following the Zionist action the Syrian foreign minister called for the formation of an emergency session of the Security Council.

The Syrian vice-president 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam said that the air piracy was a threat against air flight security and the Zionist action should be given an appropriate response.

Khaddam who was commenting on the issue after the arrival of the Syrian delegation in Damascus Tuesday night, said that the Zionist action will make the Syrian government to react.

Commentary Views Korniyenko Visit, Ties With USSR

LD041829 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1116 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Excerpts] The title of today's second political commentary is: "The Meetings of the Soviet Deputy Foreign Affairs Officials With Our Country's Officials." Georgiy Korniyenko, the Soviet deputy foreign affairs minister yesterday met several of our country's high-ranking officials. He arrived in Tehran on Sunday at the official invitation of our country's deputy foreign affairs minister. Yesterday he had separate meetings with Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Islamic Majlis; Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, the prime minister; 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the foreign affairs minister; and Aqazadeh, the oil minister.

There have been many reasons since ancient times and particularly since the victory of the Islamic Revolution, for Iran and the Soviet Union to have good relations. The two countries' long common border and all its ramifications -- such as the need for good-neighborly relations; countless diverse economic and industrial grounds; common political interests in some global issues such as the adoption of common stances against global imperialism in international circles; and some other instances, for which there is not sufficient space in this commentary -- are among these reasons. Of course, at certain points, limited relations have been established, but there have been some corresponding reasons preventing the expansion and reactivation of relations at the level desired. The two sides' difference of opinion on the issue of Afghanistan and the imposed war can be regarded as the most important example.

On the Afghanistan issue, the Islamic Republic has always stressed solving this problem through the unconditional withdrawal of foreign forces and recognition of the rights of the Muslim nation of Afghanistan to determine the fate of its own country.

Also, regarding the imposed war, Iran has always believed that one of the reasons for the survival of Saddam's aggressive regime, which has resulted in prolongation of the war, is the extensive sophisticated arms support given to this regime. The first and most urgent duty of those countries that truly desire to see an end to the war is to stop the flow of modern weapons to Iraq.

During recent months, high-ranking Iranian and Soviet officials on various occasions have expressed the desire to improve existing relations between the two countries; examples of this are the messages exchanged between Iranian and Soviet authorities. It is noteworthy that Georgiy Korniyenko is the highest-ranking Soviet official to have visited Iran after victory of the Islamic revolution.

Khamene'i Urges Army To Protect Secrets

GF021639 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 26 Jan p 18

[Text] The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, in his meeting with the officials of the Army Information Organization said: Sensitive environments like universities, secondary schools, institutes, and the Army are more exposed to the plots of our enemies than any other area.

While stressing the importance of the job entrusted to this Army organization, he said that it is necessary for them to remain gentle, mild, and refrain from muscle-flexing. It is also necessary for them to win the confidence of the general public.

The president also said that the Army today is not a foreign element in the revolution. While refering to the fact that the Army Information Protection Organization is more effective and productive in the overall effort of safeguarding the revolution and the country, he highly praised the services rendered by this committed and zealous body. While stressing the significance of the job done by personnel of this organization, he said: If you do your job well, everything in the Army and under its jurisdiction will prosper; but that if you do not have piercing eyes and a critical mind, then it is quite possible a sudden heavy blow may fall on the country and the nation.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i said that the work entrusted to the Army Information Protection Organization is like that of a lookout post, because if a lookout post is unmanned even for a moment, it gives the enemy an opportunity to strike a blow. He said: Today your capabilities are higher than ever, because now the light of faith and loyalty to the revolution has become deep-rooted in the Army. The Army today is as one with the revolution. This organ of the Army can easily protect any information because you are now supported by trustworthy elements within the Army.

The president added: Today detection and the catching of people redhanded within the Army are done by the Army elements themselves. We are proud of this because Army personnel today — unlike in the past — are ready to make sacrifices and totally serve Islam. In fact, they are helping in the protection of information. Mr Khamene'i, stating that there were no anti-information elements — the most wretched elements — in the Army today, added: You cannot expect to be loved by everybody; the work of protecting information is a sort of interference. You should win the love of God and the love of responsible elements who represent the people, because today in this Army and among the committed personnel, protection of information is not difficult.

While referring to the incident of the Howzheh Air Force base and the warning of imminent danger from a young officer, he said: This young officer was so zealous that he felt as if he were on fire. He warned us of the danger which was about to fall on the country and the people. An Army man did this simply for the sake of his faith. There are many like him in the Army today.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council stressed that the personnel of the Army Information Protection Organization should work tirelessly and with utmost vigilance. He then referred to the resistance and sacrifices of the nation vis-a-vis their difficulties and the imposed war and said: This nation is a nation which has the ability to carry on its shoulders the flag of the combatant Third World countries against the oppressive powers. You who are working for such a nation must be alert and vigilant.

The president added: We must have the same seriousness and attentiveness in every aspect of our lives so that we play our role in the world. Although in the past 7 years the leadership and the Iranian nation have attracted the attention of the other nations, we must carry this mission to the end. This can only be possible through sincere and endless efforts and without making a show of it.

Hojjat ol-Eslam, while stating that highly important and sensitive jobs are mostly performed away from the public eye, said: It does not make any difference where you work; the important thing is the sensitivity of your job. Those who do jobs in the public eye are not always the best; the best do their jobs mostly unobserved. Therefore, you should prefer to be the best.

The president added that the sensitive environments like universities, secondary schools, institutes, and the Army are exposed more than any other area to the plots of our enemies. He said: Plots against every area which is sensitive are more minutely planned, and when there is a plot against the Army it means they consider the Army a sensitive area. Therefore, the job of the Army Information Protection Organ is even more important. The president added: You should never do a thing which might be considered showing off one's strength. Where there is real strength, there is more mildness. You people should work for fineness and minuteness and should give up egoism and selfishness. He said that man, a select creation, with hard work overcomes his weaknesses and is above even the angels.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i advised the gathering that for any sensitive job they should select a person who has won your full confidence.

Khamene'i also stressed the need for complete loyalty within the Army Information Protection Organization and also encouraged initiative among personnel. He said they should adopt an attitude which would win them the confidence of the public.

Musavi States 'Neither East Nor West' Policy Viable

LD022108 Tehran IRNA in English 1843 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb 2, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi said Saturday that Iran has revised its export-import policy away from the plunderous big powers and has consequently strengthened its "neither East nor West policy" foreign policy dictum.

Speaking in a meeting with Commerce Minister Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari and other officials of the ministry here on the role foreign trade plays in a country's independence Musavi said that it is a weapon in the hands of the colonialists to bully the oppresed countries, however he noted overseas trade can be used as a powerful means for independence of a country.

Musavi said that over the past two centuries foreign governments exploited Iran by the lever of foreign trade more than they did by any other means. He said that statistics released by the Commerce Ministry reveal that a viable no East no West policy has so far been attained.

The statistics also show that the government is continuing on its economic movement towards independence from colonialists and expanding of relations with Muslim and oppressed countries, Musavi added.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Praises Legislative System

LD021820 Tehran IRNA in English 1746 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb 2 IRNA — Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani told visiting Muslim Ten Day Dawn guests here Sunday that they should seriously consider adpating similar bills as those passed by Iran's Majlis and its Guardian Council as blueprints for managing their Islamic countries. He said the legislative system of checks and balances inherent in the Islamic Republic's system of government ensures that all laws conform with divine Islamic principles.

Speaking to visiting guests and dignitaries here for the seventh anniversary of Islamic revolution celebrations in Majlis Rafsanjani said that the enemies of Islam, principally imperialist big powers have humilaited Muslims for centuries. He added that Muslims humiliation has been so total that even other peoples of the world have been duped into believing that the lives of a few nationals of "civilized western countries" are more precious than those of thousands of murdered displaced and homeless Muslims at the hands of the so-called "defenders of the Free world."

Rafsanjani further said that Iran's Majlis and nation have the honour of having broken such a spell cast over the Muslims and proved that the future and success of the Muslim oppressed world lies in their asserting their inalienable Islamic rights vis-a-vis the imperialist powers and their surrogates' plots. Rafsanjani said "Islam today has established itself as a total way of life capable of managing societies in a sophisticated world."

On the Arab's struggle against the Zionist regime, Rafsanjani said he is certain that if Arabs had begun their struggle against the Qods occupying regime in the name of Islam some forty years ago, the Zionist state of Israel would not exist today, and the Palestinian nation would not be homeless. "If Arabs faced this important issue for another one hundred years under the banner of Arab nationalism they will not be victorious of ridding the region from the Zionist aggression." Nationalism per se he noted cannot but be limited in its scope and aims.

The Majlis speaker, Rafsanjani, added that Islam and the Quran, under the judicious leadership of the ulema who have throughout history borne the brunt of the severest repression against Muslims have today made possible outstanding success of the Islamic Republic of Iran in defiance of all contemporary political equations.

Libyan Special Envoy Confers With Musavi

LD022109 Tehran IRNA in English 1851 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb 2, IRNA — Special envoy of Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, Sa'ad Mujbir met and conferred here Sunday with Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi. Sa'ad Mujbir conveyed the Libyan leader's thanks to the premier for the Islamic Republic of Iran's support vis-a-vis U.S. threats. The Libyan envoy said that such backing is a manifestation of the "deep friendship between Iran and Libya."

Premier Musavi said that in the light of such plots hatched by the big powers against Muslim countries, it was all the more imperative that they strengthen their alliance and adopt unanimous stand in challenge to the bullying of the U.S. and Zionist regime, he said that their latest plot against regional countries was the conspiracy to drive down the price of oil. He said greater unity was necessary in order to foil the conspiracy led by industrialised countries in collaboration with some OPEC member countries.

The prime minister stressed that the U.S. threats against Libya strengthen the Islamic Republic's support for Libyan Government. He added that today Iran feels Libya should be in no doubt regarding the significance of its independence and what it means to the Islamic Republic. Musavi added that Iran has backed and will continue to support Libyans and the Libyan government.

Meets With Velayati

GF030544 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] According to our correspondent, Sa'ad Mujbir, special envoy of the Libyan leadership, yesterday met with Foreign Minister Velayati. During this meeting Sa'ad Mujbir conveyed the deep appreciation of the Libyan people and government for Iran's support in the face of recent threats made by the United States against Libya. He said: These statements of support did not come from one official but rather all officials announced their support. Iran itself has faced similar incidents and has successfully foiled plots in its struggle against the United States. He added: Iran's position is itself the best indication of how strong the bonds of unity are between us and points to the common views between the two peoples and the two governments. He said: It is not surprising that Iran has taken such a steadfast attitude in its support for Libya.

Mr Velayati thanked the envoy for the greetings conveyed by the Libyan officials and assured the envoy of Iran's all-out and general support for Libya in the face of U.S. threats. He announced Iran's continued readiness to support Libya.

Confers With Interior Minister

LD031104 Tehran IRNA in English 1042 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 3, IRNA — Special envoy of the Libyan leader, Sa'ad Mujbir in a meeting here Sunday with Interior Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Mohtashami, thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran for its all-out support for Libya in the face of the U.S. threats.

Mujbir told the Iranian minister that the Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi had given him the mission to convey appreciation of Libyan people and government to the Iranian officials and nation. The Libyan envoy added that the Libyan people like the Iranians will be victorious in their confrontation with U.S. imperialism. He also called for cooperation between the revolutionary committees of Libya with Islamic Revolution's committees of Iran and extended an invitation to Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohtashami to visit Libya.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohtashami said that Iran and Libya shared common interests and it was the responsibility of Iran to support Libya. He stressed that Iran had the duty to defend its allies in the face of any danger from the U.S.

Oil Minister Expresses Support for Libya Against U.S.
LD050745 Tehran IRNA in English 0725 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, Feb 5, IRNA — Oil Ministers of Iran, Libya and Algeria currently gathered here to coordinate efforts and take a unified stance on declining oil prices, discussed situation of oil market in two sessions Tuesday. Oil ministers of the three countries made decisions on ways of encountering the present situation in world oil market and also decided to resume talks on Wednesday.

Meanwhile the three oil ministers, Gholam Reza Aqazadeh of Iran, Belkacem Nabi of Algeria and Fawzi al-Shakshuki of Libya met and talked with Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the Command Council of Libya, here Tuesday. The Iranian oil minister reiterated Iran's support for Libya in the face of U.S. threats. They also discussed oil related issues and Major Jallud made suggestions in this respect.

Deputy Foreign Minister in Algiers For Oil Talks
LD030607 Tehran IRNA in English 0600 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] Algiers, Feb. 3, IRNA — The Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister in charge of international and economic affairs Javad Larijani, arrived here Sunday night for consultation with Algerian oil officials on world oil market situation. He is carrying a message from President 'Ali Khamene'i for President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria.

In a meeting with the Algerian Minister of Energy and Petrochemical Industry Belkacem Nabi, both sides discussed world oil market and actions that the oil producing countries could take to thwart plots aimed at pushing oil prices down. They also stressed the need for a coordinated action and importance of exchange of visits and consultations in finding the best way to encounter plots of Western powers against oil producers.

The Iranian official arrived here after a visit to Libya where he held talks with Libyan officials on International oil market.

Comments on Upcoming Oil Meeting
LD041043 Tehran IRNA in English 0900 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Excerpt] Algiers, Feb. 4, IRNA — The deputy foreign minister in charge of international and economic affairs, Javad Larijani, currently here after a visit to Libya, said Monday that his tour was in connection with current situation in world oil market and plots of the U.S. and Western countries to reduce oil prices.

Speaking in an interview with IRNA he said "We should not let the U.S., Britain and other Western countries to ensure their interest through creating crisis." He added that efforts should be made to prevent any decline in oil prices by Western countries.

The issue was raised in talks with Algerian and Libyan officials and ways of adopting a unified policy was dicussed, he added. There is no doubt, he told IRNA, that in the light of a well calculated action by OPEC members conspiracies of the U.S. and Western countries will be annulled and oil price will pick up. Therefore, he noted, oil ministers of Algeria, Libya and Iran in their Tuesday meeting in Tripoli will discuss the oil price and will make a proper decision on the issue. Future meetings might also be necessary, he added.

On actions to be taken to encounter the recent drop in price of oil, he said oil producers which through excess production are playing into the hands of Western powers, should be prevented from doing so. Production level, Larijani added, should be checked and finally repayment of debts of oil producers to Western countries and their purchase from West should be connected to oil prices.

Venezuelan Envoy Urges Common Oil Price Strategy
LD011612 Tehran IRNA in English 1554 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 1, IRNA — Venezuela's ambassador to Tehran Jose Rafael Zanoni in a meeting with oil Iranian minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh here Saturday said that his country shares Iran's view that OPEC should adopt a commons strategy to face plots to destabilize world oil prices. He said that OPEC should defend its position.

During the meeting Aqazadeh said that Iran is opposed to an oil price reduction and has taken measures which challenge the conspiracy. "Iran has only fulfilled its long-term agreements over the past three weeks in order to stabilize the oil price in free markets", he added. Aqazadeh pointed out that Venezuela's Minister of Energy and Mines Arturo Hernandez-Grisanti as the chairman of OPEC has a grave responsibility to face the plot and defend OPEC members' interests. The ambassador also called for expansion of bilateral relations in the field of oil research and exploration.

Meanwhile, Oil Ministry sources here have said that Iran would reject any proposal to reduce the prices of oil in any future session of OPEC. The sources said that an increase in the production ceiling would be dangerous due to the current situation. Iran has dispatched a delegation to the OPEC countries, calling on them not to increase their production, they added.

According to oil experts a fifty percent decline in Iran's oil production caused a three-dollar increase per barrel in the free market. Experts believe that if the current production ceiling was observed or better still reduced it would go a long way in stabilizing oil prices.

IRNA Analyzes SFRY Concern Over Oil Price Reduction
LD021458 Tehran IRNA in English 1448 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] Belgrade, Feb. 2, IRNA — Yugoslavia is closely following recent upheavals on the world oil market. "We do not object to a drop in the price of crude", an official from the Secretariat for Energy and Industry said on Saturday in a conversation with

IRNA, "but neither do we wish to see prices plunge. A drop to below US dollar 25 per barrel would adversely affect Yugoslav foreign trade."

Developing countries such as Iran, Iraq, Libya and Algeria are the main suppliers of oil to Yugoslavia while buying her goods in a form of barter exchange. The USSR delivers oil to Yugoslavia at the rate of 5.5 tons per year, while carrying on more diversified forms of trade. A decrease in the income of countries largely dependent on oil exports, would automatically reduce the amount of goods they could continue to purchase from Yugoslavia.

In that event, this would leave two options open to Yugoslavia: To increase its imports of oil or other raw materials from these countries or to reroute its exports towards new markets — a theory very difficult to put into practice, as last year's foreign trade figures show. Yugoslavia failed to meet an ambitious target of a nominal 12 p.c. growth rate in exports, closing the year with an overall increase of 7 p.c. More significant attempts to increase exports to Western countries by 15 p.c. fell far short of the mark at 2.6 p.c., resulting in a negative balance of trade with the industrialised countries. The effect was to push trade more to the East as a 9 p.c. increase in exports to socialist countries showed. A more modest target of 5 p.c. overall export growth has been set for 1986.

The Soviets have reduced their oil price to Yugoslavia by 20 p.c. recently. "We are now trying to obtain more oil or other raw materials from the USSR, or alternatively find another market for our goods", said the energy and industry official.

It is possible that Yugoslavia might find cheaper oil on the open market, but the country suffers from a chronic shortage of cash. A serious drop in the price of crude would also damage Yugoslavia programmes aimed at replacing petro-energy with alternative methods.

Yugoslav economists are now studying ways of reducing the negative effects of a decrease in the price of crude on their foreign trade. If OPEC members decided to fix only a production ceiling and not oil prices, Yugoslavia would be able to negotiate prices on an individual basis with OPEC member countries, which could result to her advantage. Yugoslavia would favourably consider a net-back agreement for purchases of crude, although so far it has had no such agreement with OPEC.

Majlis Delegation Holds Talks With Pakistani Official

LD050941 Tehran IRNA in English 0858 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Islamabad, Feb. 5, IRNA — A six-member Iranian parliamentary delegation, currently visiting here headed by Majlis deputy Hojjat ol-Eslam Hadi Ghaffari, met and conferred with the head of Pakistan parliament, Fakhr Imam, Tuesday.

Speaking at the meeting, the Pakistani official said that the visit of the Iranian delegation to Pakistan would play an outstanding role in further expansion of bilateral relations between the two countries.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Ghaffari referred to Iran's foreign policy and stressed that the Islamic Republic of Iran was interested in expanding its relations with Islamic countries, neighbouring countries in particular. The delegation invited the head of Pakistan's parliament to visit Iran which was accepted.

The Pakistani official also conveyed his greetings for Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i and Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani. The Iranian delegation then attended a luncheon held in its honour by the head of the National Consultative Council of Pakistan.

Ahmad Dargahi Appointed Deputy Premier

LD032049 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] A decree issued by Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, the prime minister, extends thanks for the services rendered by Davudi-Shamsi, the former head of the Physical Education Organization and appoints Ahmad Dargahi to the post of deputy prime minister and new head of the Physical Education Organization of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Chemical Weapons Warning System Developed

LD042046 Tehran IRNA in English 1916 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Ahvaz, Feb. 4, IRNA — Iranian chemical engineers and technicians at the Islamic Revolution's Guard Corps (IRGC) have developed automatic advance warning and alert systems sensitive to chemicals and radio-active substances, according to an IRGC officer in charge of chemical defence operations here Wednesday. [as received] The systems incorporate visual and audio alert devices which can give advance warning to combatants in the battlefronts. The IRGC official said Iranian infantry forces are also equipped with numerous other devices for neutralizing the effects of lethal chemical weapons, and have thereby minimized the effects of Baghdad's deployment of such weapons at any future time.

The IRGC official said stations for neutralizing the effects of chemical weapons have been established throughout the battlefronts, and noted that Iran's Muslim combatants have taken courses on how to cope with a chemical warfare.

Since the outbreak of the Iraq-Iran war, the Iraqi forces have repeatedly deployed lethal chemical weapons against Iranians in the battlefronts and elsewhere upon civilian areas. To repel Iran's Muslim forces in [words indistinct] operations alone, the Iraqis fired 300-plus chemical bullets and another 120 chemical-fed rockets each bearing 40 litres of lethal chemical solution.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,371

LD041731 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 4, IRNA — Iran's Muslim combatants pounded Iraqi positions in the western fronts Monday killing or

wounding at least 15 Iraqi soldiers, while setting fire to parts of enemy positions, according to a military communique released by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here Tuesday.

The Communique Number 2371 of the Joint Staff Command says that Iranian artillery fire prevented Iraqi forces from setting up breastworks and other positions in Halaleh and halted an Iraqi motorized unit elsewhere in Changuleh Monday.

Sporadic artillery duels between Iranian forces and Iraqi troops continued in the northwestern fronts Monday, says the Communique, adding that heavy artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants on Iraqi tanks operating in Hoseyniyeh, in the southern front, silenced their fire and inflicted substantial casualties and losses on them.

In Zobeydah, Iran's gendarmerie forces shelled Iraqi positions and their supply routes and elsewhere in Dehloran despatched patrols to reconnoiter Iraqi engineering and combat operations on Monday, according to the communique.

The communique says exchange of fire continued in the southern fronts Monday raging somewhat more heavily in Majnun Islands. Meanwhile, some buildings in Abadan were damaged Monday as they were hit by Iraqi long-range artillery fire.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

6 FEBRUARY 1986

Further Reaction to Interception of Libyan Plane

PFLP-General Command Secretary General Ahmad Jibril issued a warning to all passengers thinking of traveling on Israeli or U.S. airliners in the future, advising them not to do so, Tripoli radio reported. Jibril, who was speaking at a news conference in Tripoli, added that "henceforth, we will not be responsible for any civilians aboard these planes." Claiming that the interception of the Libyan plane was the product of "complete coordination" between the United States and Israel, Jibril declared that Palestinian resistance groups "are free to take the appropriate measures in response to these attacks."

In further Syrian reaction, Damascus radio maintained that Israel would not have dared to intercept the Libyan plane without the "complete support" of the United States. Damascus television broadcast the Syrian foreign minister's statement that U.S. military support for Israel and use of the UN Security Council veto in its favor demonstrate that the United States is Israel's "accomplice" in violating international law.

A Cairo radio commentary also castigated Israel's "air piracy," describing the interception as "one of the most serious international crimes." Meanwhile, the PLO condemned "this U.S.-Supported official Zionist terrorism" in a statement carried by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio. The Council of Arab Interior Ministers also denounced the Israeli action in a statement broadcast by Rabat radio following the Council's meeting in Casablanca.

In Israel, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres warned that Israel will strongly retaliate against any attack, including attempts made by terrorists in the air, at sea, or on land, IDF radio reported 6 feburary. Peres had earlier acknowledged that the interception of the Libyan plane was a "mistake," but he expressed hope that the United States will understand the motives involved, Jerusalem radio noted.

Iraq

Iraq is ready to establish "neighborly" relations with Syria if suitable circumstances are established, President Saddam Husayn told Kuwait's AL-QABAS, INA reported. Syria should act to restore relations before the Iran-Iraq war ends, Saddam said, adding that the process will be more difficult when the war ends and Iraq begins "to recall Syrian behavior." Iraq is also prepared to "establish new relations" with Libya if that country reconsiders its stance on the war, the Iraqi president stated.

Egypt-Israel

The Egyptian, Israeli, and U.S. delegations to the Tabah talks met in Al-Jizah near Cairo 5 and 6 February, Cairo radio reported. In the first day's meeting, Egypt and Israel agreed to set up two negotiating committees, one on the Tabah arbitration and the other on normalization of Egyptian-Israeli relations, Jerusalem radio disclosed. Egypt disagrees with the Israeli linkage of arbitration with other bilateral issues, Jerusalem radio added, citing the head of the Egyptian delegation. An Egyptian spokesman cited by MENA stated that Israel's conditions in its decision on arbitration are an Israeli "interpretation" and are not binding on Egypt.

Meanwhile, IDF officials began investigating the collision 4 February of an Egyptian patrol boat with an Israeli yacht in the Gulf of Elat, *THE JERUSALEM POST* reported. The passengers on the yacht claimed that the Egyptian vessel deliberately rammed their boat, the report added.

PLO Affairs

Khalid al-Hasan denied that he has suspended his membership in Fatah, WAKH reported, citing a statement in the UAE's *AL-BAYAN*.

Lebanon

Acknowledging that Islamic Group gunmen were responsible for downing a UNIFIL helicopter in the Sidon area 5 February, an Islamic Group spokesman cited by Beirut radio indicated that the aircraft was shot down on the assumption that it belonged to the army of southern Lebanon. The passengers in the helicopter were unharmed in the crash landing and were subsequently handed over to the UNIFIL command, the radio noted.

PDRY

'Ali Nasir Muhammad plotted for a long time to "smash the revolution from inside," acting Chairman Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas told a rally in Abyan Governorate in a speech broadcast by Aden radio. Al-'Attas maintained that 'Ali Nasir's efforts to muster support in Abyan were unsuccessful because the governorate had suffered "the most" from his economic policies, which favored "extravagant" luxury projects rather than homes, hospitals, and schools. 'Ali Nasir was consequently unable to stay more than "a few hours" in Abyan. Noting that "large numbers" of "misled" people have fled abroad, Al-'Attas urged them to return home and contribute to economic and social construction, adding that the authorities will not bring them to account but will only take action against those who planned and carried out 'Ali Nasir's "conspiracy."

OPEC Affairs

The oil ministers of Iran, Libya, and Algeria expressed concern over the "instability" of the oil market and called for increased unity among the OPEC member-countries, Tripoli radio reported, citing the ministers' press statement at the conclusion of a meeting in Tripoli.

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Soviets Bomb Panjsher in Response to Embassy Attack

GF050611 Jeddah Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Afghan mujahidin have inflicted severe material losses on the invading Soviet forces during operations over the past few days.

The Afghan mujahidin launched a rocket attack on the Soviet Embassy in Kabul. This resulted in the death of one person and severe damage to the building.

The mujahidin also carried out a daring attack on the Kabul airport using rockets and heavy armaments. The attack resulted in numerous grave casualties among the Afghan soldiers.

Fierce fighting took place in the Panjsher Valley to the northeast of Kabul over the past 2 weeks between the Afghan mujahidin and the Soviet forces.

Following this, Soviet planes bombed villages in the valley in retaliation for the attacks.

Eyewitnesses have stated that Soviet military forces have been seen going to Lowgar Province in the south, in an apparent Soviet plan to launch an extensive offensive on the mujahidin there.

Revolutionary Council Member on Social Change

LD060700 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0454 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Kabul, February 5, BAKHTAR: "Maintaining country-wide peace and security, revolution, raising the defence capbility of the country, prosperity of the homeland and of cessation of armed interference of foreign agents are the national and common tasks of all of us".

Muhammad A'zam Systani, one of the writers and researchers of the Academy of Sciences and a new member of the DRA Revolutionary Council told a Kabul *NEW TIMES* reporter.

Systani said that the prevailings stage of social life in our country is one of the [words indistinct] struggle against socio-economic disorders, eradication of illiteracy and other chronic pains afflicting our society since ages. The struggle has a special place in the sphere of culture. It belongs more to the intelligentsia of our society he added. That's why we felt heavy responsibility to the homeland, people and revolution, Systani said.

He has compiled many works during the recent years. His important works are: *Land Ownership and Peasant Movement in Khurasan During Medieval Centuries*; *System of Exploitation of Land in Afghanistan in Medieval Times*. Both were published in 1983 by the State Committee for Printing and Publications of the DRA. One of his other works called *Epics* is now under publication.

Systani,48, was born in a peasant family. He took his BA degree in humanities from the Kabul University in 1966. After graduation, he was appointed as teacher [words indistinct] administrative employee in the ministries.

BAKHTAR on Pakistani 'Invasion' of Tribes in Khyber

LD060639 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0452 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Kabul, February 5 BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes: Over 20,000 Pakistani military forces took part in the invasion of Afridi and Shenwari tribes. The invaders made use of the methods followed by Israeli forces in Lebanon, for the elimination of the tribes. Tanks, planes and heavy weapons were extensively engaged for this purpose. So far, thousands of youths, children, women and old people of the tribes have been killed, and more than 23 villages and 1,000 dwellings of the tribes have been razed to the ground.

A number of innocent tribesmen have taken refuge in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. In their speeches and statements, they have demanded the Islamabad regime to immediately stop the murder and devastation in the free tribes regions.

The Ziaul Haq regime is trampling under foot the traditional and historic freedoms of the tribes on the instruction of the U.S. imperialism. Wali Khan Kokikhel, one of the leaders of the free tribes, said at an interview that Ziaul Haq has violated human rights and people's freedoms more than the British colonialists.

The question arises as to why the Washington administration, which claims to be the so-called defender of human rights and freedoms in the world, has kept quiet on the genocide and blood shed committed by the Islamabad regime in Khyber.

The human rights violations committed by the Islamabad regime against the free tribes are unprecedented in the history of the region and are similar to those committed by the Israeli Zionists and South African racist regimes against the Arabs and native South Africans.

The mass media of the Reagan administration conceals the events in Khyber from the world public by groundless insinuations, and feigns as if no important event has happened in Khyber. But, on the contrary, it distorts the events in the DRA by forgeries and false propaganda aimed at confusing world public opinion.

The Ziaul Haq regime acts as the defender of the interests of the U.S. imperialism and not of the people of Pakistan. It attempts to crush the liberatory movements of Pakistan and the region.

The U.S. imperialism and the Ziaul Haq regime in collusion with the ring leaders of the Afghan counter-revolution, who have nested in Pakistan are responsible for all inhuman activities and trampling under foot the freedom and human rights of the Pashtun tribes.

Court Sentences Jamiyat 'Criminal' to 20 Years

LD051810 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 5 Feb 36

[Text] A judicial panel of the DRA Special Revolutionary Court sentenced a criminal belonging to the Jamiyat band to 20 years in jail at an open trial attended by a number of Kabul City citizens. This criminal, Ghulam Muhammad, son of Baz

Muhammad, inhabitant of Andarab District, Baghlan Province, confessed before the court to his crimes of belonging to the Gulbuddin and Jamiyat bands; receiving military training at the Jamiyat band's center in Peshawar; bringing weapons to Panjsher from Pakistan; and many other crimes.

A BIA correspondent reports that at the opening of the trial, the judicial panel heard the charges made by the prosecutor against the accused. Then the accused was asked to defend himself in a free and democratic atmosphere.

Because of the crimes committed by the accused, which included armed uprising against the DRA, providing weapons for the counterrevolutionaries, and evading service in the Armed Forces, the panel sentenced the accused, Ghulam Muhammad, to death in accordance with Article 175 of the Penal Code, in observation of Articles 181 and 203 of the Penal Code and in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Crimes Against Combat Readiness.

However, because he had been forced to join the Jamiyat band, and gave information to the interrogation board and judicial panel and repented his criminal actions, therefore, in consideration of Article 143 of the Penal Code, the judicial panel of the DkA Revolutionary Court mitigated his sentence to 20 years imprisonment.

The court order is final and applicable in accordance with Article 11 of the Law of the Special Revolutionary Court of the DRA.

Kurum, Khyber Tribes Inflict Casualties on Rebels

LD060644 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0448 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Kabul, February 5, BAKHTAR — Further human casualties have been inflicted on the Afghan counter-revolution as a result of the explosions and armed attack launched by the people of free tribes in Kurum and Khyber regions, reports reaching here say.

The reports add that the office of Jamiat-e Eslami band in Parachinar, centre of Kurum region, has been completely destroyed due a bomb explosion.

Likewise, several motor vehicles and camps of the counter-revolutionary bands were blasted by bomb explosions as a result of which 47 counter-revolutionaries were killed and a number of them were wounded.

According to another report, the intrinsic differences between the Afghan counter-revolutionary bands on the division of arms, ammunition and money given to them by their imperialist masters are mounting day by day.

Rebels 'Eliminated' in Herat, Nanghar Provinces

LD060646 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0428 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Kabul, February 5, BAKHTAR — As a result of the successful operations carried out by the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA) a number of counter-revolutionary elements were eliminated in Herat and Nangarhar Provinces, bordering Iran and Pakistan respectively.

A large quantity of assorted weapons including 13 rockets launchers, three ground-to-ground rockets, four mortars, six machine guns with about 6000 bullets as well as a number of leaflets, which prove their foreign links, were seized from them by the Armed Forces of the DRA.

Briefs

Deputy Ministers Appointments — Kabul, February 5, BAKHTAR — the Council of Ministers of the DRA has appointed Dr Muhammad Asif Gharwal and Dr Muhammad Azim Karim Zada, non-party people, as deputy ministers of the Ministry of Public Health of the DRA and Zakim Shah, also a non-party person, as the deputy minister of the Ministry of Finance. [Excerpts] [*Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0456 GMT 6 Feb 86 LD*]

Land Distributed — Kabul, February 5, BAKHTAR — Over 3000 landless peasant families received land plots free of charge in the Kabul Province during the past nine months, under the democratic land and water reforms. The state of the DRA not only distributes land to the landless peasants, but also provides them with necessary funds and other facilities such as chemical fertilizers, insecticides and pesticides. To accelerate the process of land reforms and mobilizing of peasants, a total of 48 peasant councils hav been set up in Kabul Province. More than 6000 hectares of land have been distributed free of charge to peasants throughout the country during the past eight months. [Text] [*Kabul BAKHATAR in English 0439 GMT 6 Feb 86 LD*]

Sikh Student Federation Chief Shot 6 Feb
BK060746 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] In Punjab, the president of the Gurdaspur District unit of All India Sikh Students Federation [AISSF], Khalsa group, Mr Jatinder Singh Umang, was shot dead by two unidentified miscreants in (Gumang Kalaveli) this morning. The miscreants later escaped.

Punjab Orders Investigation of Police Shooting
BK060318 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] The Punjab government has ordered a judicial inquiry into the incidents in Nakodar town of Jullundur District. The Punjab finance minister, Mr Balwant Singh, told newsmen in Jullundur that the state government will ensure total communal harmony in the state and the culprits will be brought to book.

He also said three police officers, including a superintendent of police, have been suspended in connection with the incidents. Four persons were killed and eight others injured in the town on Tuesday [4 February] when police opened fire to disperse a violent crowd.

Editorial Raps UK Stand on Sikh Terrorists
BK041020 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 27 Jan 86 p 9

[Editorial: "Licence Again"]

[Text] Thanks largely to the failure of the British Government to appreciate the gravity of the challenge posed by Sikh extremists operating in the country, one more moderate leader who had the courage to oppose their sinister designs has paid the price with his life. By a grim irony of fate, Tarsam Singh Tur, general secretary of the Indian Overseas Congress, was gunned down last week by a hired killer in his liquor shop only a couple of days after his warning about the consequences of inaction by the Margaret Thatcher Government was highlighted by this paper in an editorial. That Tur had become a marked man ever since he came out openly in support of the Punjab accord was clear from the series of attacks made on the restaurant he had been running for years in the Southall suburb, which stopped only when he sold it in sheer desperation.

And yet, for some mysterious reason, the police protection provided to Tur in the wake of "Operation Bluestar" was withdrawn by the authorities last year. Even if a review of the situation obtaining then had justified the step, the recent spate of extremist activities directed against moderate Sikh leaders in UK should have alerted the Government to the danger of leaving at least the most outspoken among them unprotected.

The daylight attacks made on two other leaders during the past couple of months — Akali Dal convener Sangtar Singh Sandhu and another IOC office-bearer Sohan Singh Lidder — should have given enough evidence that the Sikh terrorists sheltered in the country against India's considered advice would stop at nothing to sabotage the reconciliation process set in motion in Punjab.

Britain's reluctance to intervene even when Khalistan leaders were openly flaunting their hit lists, which included the name of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi too, has naturally been taken as licence by the terrorists to eliminate anyone they fancied.

The argument advanced that British laws did not permit any pre-emptive action when the threat held out was only verbal will not wash in view of the vastly different response that the fulminations of IRA terrorists have attracted.

A puzzling aspect of the relative immunity enjoyed by some of the Khalistan leaders like Jaswant Singh Thekkedar, and Gurmej Singh Gill in carrying on their anti-India activities is the scant respect shown to New Delhi's protests in this score. If the Home Office bent immigration laws in granting citizenship to Gill, who is also the chairman of the Babbar Khalsa in the UK, Thekkedar has been favoured with the out-of-turn allotment of a Government house despite his call for an armed struggle against India. It is this kid glove treatment of Sikh terrorists that India finds difficult to comprehend.

If the current laws made it difficult to deter violence by extremists there is a good case for amending the laws in order to give the British Government more powers.

Iranian Parliamentarians Meet Senate Chairman

BK060244 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] An Iranian parliamentary delegation called on Senate Chairman Ghulam Ishaq Khan in Islamabad yesterday. Welcoming the delegation, the chairman referred to the close friendship between Pakistan and Iran and said that the exchange of parliamentary delegations will benefit both countries.

Expressing similar sentiments, members of the Iranian delegation referred to the close religious and cultural relationship between the two countries and stressed the need for promoting cultural ties between them.

Indian Agricultural Delegation Leaves 5 February

BK060246 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] The leader of Indian agricultural delegation, N.S. Randhawa, has said their talks in Pakistan will help identify areas of cooperation in agriculture between the two countries. Before his departure for home, he said in Lahore yesterday that the exchange of delegations of experts between the two countries wil also offer an opportunity to learn much from each other.

NDP Chief on Volatile Situation in Peshawar

GF051752 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 27 Jan 86 pp 1, 3

[Excerpts] Islamabad, Jan. 26: Khan Abdul Wali Khan, chief of the National Democratic Party, said today the recurring bomb explosions in Peshawar were the retaliatory acts of forces against whom Pakistan was sponsoring "sabotage activities" in Afghanistan. The NDP chief painted a bleak picture of his province and said it had been converted into an ammunition depot. "Any time a blood-bath may result", he warned. He told a correspondent that the future of the MRD was very "precarious and uncertain". He said the undemocratic and unconstitutional system introduced by rulers had rendered the political parties totally irrelevent and "forced them to resort to a non-political course". Elaborating, Wali Khan said the parties abiding by the law and the constitution of the land had now no role or scope in the new system. "The course left to them is that of revolution". Wali Khan suggested that the only way to arrest the deterioration of the political atmosphere was to "undo" the present system, restore the 1973 Constitution and hold polls on party basis.

Wali Khan implicitly blamed the Jamiat Islami for secretly appropriating a major chunk of arms supplied by the Reagan administration to the Afghan freedom fighters with the blessings of the Pakistan rulers. He claimed he could prove that Jamiat men were being trained at refugee camps.

He said when the government supported one political party, the other parties would have no option but to seek help from other countries. He alleged that the Jamiat had piled up arms in all big cities of the country. "The frequent shootouts in Karachi have been sponsored by the Jamiat".

PAKISTAN TIMES on U.S. Veto in Security Council

GF051742 Rawalpindi THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 2 Feb 86 p 4

[Editorial: "American Veto"]

[Text] What for the US is a routine reflex is a depressing testimony to the state of UN deadlock for the world. The person who cast the negative vote to the Security Council resolution merely "strongly deploring" Israel's latest desecration of the Aqsa Mosque was someone deputising for the American ambassador at the UN; the 15-member Security Council was almost unanimous (Thailand abstained) in its condemnation of the profanation of the revered Muslim shrine by a group of Israelis that contained members of the Knesset. So case-hardened is the US bureaucracy at the UN that the prefatorial quibbling to the veto was couched in a most unconvincing phraseology. Ignoring the fact there were parliamentarians among the group of vandals who profaned the mosque, the deputy to the US ambassador called the incident acts of a few individuals that could not be made a ground for blaming Israel, as if the Knesset has to pass a law allowing profanation of Al-Aqsa before the UN can address itself to the problem.

The significant aspect ofthe latest voting is that America's European allies, who are seated permanently in the Security Council, voted for the resolution, a positive "yes" vote, not even an abstention. It seems that the partners have gradually become more sensitive to the feeling of a large part of humanity represented by the ICO that had campaigned for the resolution. This trend has imposed an isolation on the U.S. that it does not seem to mind. When it routinely vetoes resolutions against Israel and South Africa at the Security Council and opposes General Assembly resolutions against the outrages of these two countries, it also suffers a curtailment of image as a superpower vis-a-vis the Soviet Union. The cavalier disregard for the anger these vetoes arouse in the world has its negative repercussions whether the U.S. likes it or not. Its so-called serious efforts to help the Middle Eastern countries arrive at a peaceful resolution of their differences with Israel, going on at the very moment of the veto, have no chance of success in an environment of extreme attitudes that its vetoes produce.

As regards its campaign against Soviet actions in Afghanistan and elsewhere, the bad image it gives itself tends to boost the other superpower and makes it immune to criticism in the eyes of those who consider Israel's policies more dangerous for world peace. And it fosters desperation in quarters that most need to be listened to, forcing them to opt for terrorism in lieu of the legitimate expression that they are not allowed at international forums.

PAKISTAN TIMES Criticizes Karmal Press Conference

GF051747 Rawalpindi THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 29 Jan 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Karmal's Case"]

[Text] Mr Babrak Karmal's press conference, in which the Western news reporters were invited for the first time after six years

of his complete isolation, raises a number of interesting questions. The first question, of course, is: Why this sudden interest in establishing a communication link, where none was considered necessary before? From the Reuter report carried by our Press it is not clear whether this question was asked and, if asked, what his response was. Therefore one can only speculate about the motives which prompted him to do it. Was it motivated by his realisation of the fact that the Afghan people have not accepted him so far and are not likely to accept him in future unless his credentials are recognised outside the Soviet sphere? Or, was it that after six years of brutal repression of his own people he now wants to promote a personal image of Mr Clean? Or, was it that having abandoned all hope of a military solution he wishes to come to terms with the reality around him and would like to retrieve as much of the cause supported by him as can be saved from the debris of the war? Or, was it just a desire to state his side of the case?

This exposure to the Western newsmen may perhaps buy him some space on their media but whether it would promote any understanding of his position or arouse any sympathy for his cause remains in serious doubt. Who, for example, would accept this claim that it was not the Russians but the people of Afghanistan who brought him to power? He wants to deny patent facts, eye-witness accounts and objectively recorded contemporary history, but how far can his denial take him? Supposing, however, that it was the people of Afghanistan who brought him, how does he explain the fact that about one-third of the people of Afghanistan (more than 3 million in Pakistan and 1.5 million in Iran) were driven out or had to run for their life soon after he came to power? The influx of these poor people into Pakistan at the rate of about 8000 a month still continues.

He claims to be the champion of the poor. How come then that it is the poor who are in terror from his men and his protectors - the Soviet soldiers? And if it is the people of Afghanistan who brought him then why does he need a lakh and twenty thousand foreign troops, besides of course his own army, to save him?

He claims that the war in his country is being sponsored by the U.S. or Pakistan. If so, then how come that among the guerrillas fighting in Afghanistan there is not a single foreign adviser, not a single mercenary or even a volunteer, while there are hundreds of thousands of foreign troops on his soil? Several thousand Soviet military advisers used to be in Kabul even prior to the present war of resistance, as stated by his Foreign Minister, Shah Mohammad Dost and would continue to remain there even after the settlement of the issue. Would they be there to train the Karmal army? Not so, says Mr Karmal. Afghanistan, he claims, is quite capable of training its soldiers. Then why would they be there? What, therefore, is "foreign interference"? The Afghan people trying to get a life of honour and safety for themselves or thousands of foreign troops trying to prop up an unpopular regime?

Mr Karmal would like Pakistan to talk directly to his representatives, thereby seeking legitimacy for his regime. Why is that so important to him? If a regime is sure of its own legitimacy it does not need endorsement of the others. China, as we know, was not bothered when U.S. refused to recognise it. It did not go about asking people to put pressure on the U.S. to do so. The real legitimacy, Mr Karmal should realise, lies in the trust and the confidence that one's own people repose in their representatives. Mr Karmal should get his priorities right. He should talk to the people he has alienated and try to convince them of his bonafides. Convincing the newsmen of the West will not get him anywhere.

THE MUSLIM Comments on Junejo's Cabinet Reshuffle

GF051743 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English
30 Jan 86 p 4

[Editorial: "The New Cabinet"]

[Text] The new Cabinet sworn in yesterday contains a number of surprising omissions and marks a major assertion of politicians over technocrats in the postmartial-law phase of governance. While the Cabinet retains several incumbents, the discarding of some key figures is indicative of the prime minister's willingness to take strong independent decisions. In that context, it marks the coming of age of Mr Junejo as Pakistan's prime minister.

Most of the new Cabinet members are drawn from the official Muslim League, which shows that the prime minister, despite some initial difficulties, has also won the battle of making his party the principal source of political patronage. It is obvious that he wishes to operate through a party system and wants his Cabinet colleagues to accept his authority as the leader of the ruling party. Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali's omission from the Cabinet is an indication of his priorities. By insisting on loyalty to the Muslim League as a pre-requisite for joining the Cabinet, the prime minister has demonstrated his keenness to create an independent constituency for himself.

Dr Mahbubul Haq's exit is a surprising and perhaps the most significant development. Though it has yet to be seen what changes his departure will bring about in the economic policies of the government, his World Bank connection had given him the reputation of an advocate of pro-US package deals. He was also an enthusiastic supporter of expanding economic ties with India, a sentiment not shared by many other decision-makers. The new finance minister, being a politican and a nominee of the prime minister, may be prone to make policy decisions with greater regard for domestic political considerations.

The new Cabinet is relatively more homogeneous, and has a political orientation and clearly identifiable leadership. Hopefully, it would not function like a group of bureaucrats preoccupied with maintenance of law and order, but would give priority to tackling the real problems of the people. It must behave like a political government, allow an unrestrained political process and establish democratic traditions of tolerating dissent. Its first endeavour should be to open a dialogue with the opposition and break the political stalemate in the country, so as to ensure that the new civilian order becomes credible and durable. Reshuffling of cabinets is not an unusual phenomenon in parliamentary democracies. It has no real significance if it means only a change of faces. The people expect change in policies and in their material conditions. The new Cabinet will have to convince the people that it is a government with a difference, and not a mere byproduct of martial law.

SRI LANKA

Deputy Foreign Minister Warns Brunei of Tamil Danger

BK041313 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Sri Lanka has warned Brunei about the danger of certain Tamils living there and has offered to assist the authorities in Brunei to identify potential troublemakers among the nearly 500 predominantly Tamil Sri Lankans working in the Sultanate of Brunei. This follows the recent official visit to Brunei of Sri Lanka's deputy foreign minister, Tyronne Fernando.

LANKA PUWATH, quoting a report which appeared in the newspaper in Brunei, states that Mr Fernando has informed the king of Brunei that Sri Lankan Tamils living there could be indirectly funding terrorist activities in that country as well. He said these elements are Marxist sympathizers and could threaten Brunei's own security.

Tamil Area Leader Reported Killed by Security Forces

HK060454 Hong Kong AFP in English 0427 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Colombo, Feb 6 (AFP) — Seven Tamil separatists were killed and several others wounded during an attack on a security forces camp in the north yesterday, National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said today. The area leader of the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) is believed to have died of wounds suffered in the attack, the minister told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The EPRLF — one of the five major militant Tamil groups campaigning for an independent Tamil state in the north and east — attacked the camp at Point Pedro at the northern tip of the Jaffna Peninsula yesterday with mortars and small arms, security sources said.

The security forces returned fire killing seven of the attackers and wounding at least 12 others, the sources said.

In the other troubled area, the Eastern Province, three militants were killed on Tuesday in a shootout with police commandos, security sources said. The militants had hurled grenades during an ambush but the police suffered no casualties, the sources added.

Tamil 'Terrorists' Killed in 5 Feb Clashes

BK061055 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text](?Twenty) Tamil terrorists were killed when security force repulsed two separate attacks at Point Pedro yesterday. Security sources told LANKA PUWATH that an Army patrol had killed two terrorists on a motorcycle followed by a van-load of terrorists approaching the patrol. On seeing the patrol the terrorists on the motorcycle had opened fire. The security forces returned the fire, killing both terrorists. When the terrorists in the van attempted to take the dead terrorists away, the troops fired at the van. Air support was also called for, and the van was completely destroyed.

Meanwhile, according to the information received by the security forces, it was confirmed that the two terrorists killed on the motorcycle belonged to the Eelam Revolutionary People's Liberation Front, the EPRLF. Following this incident, the terrorists attacked the Point Pedro Army camp with mortars. The troops returned fire with mortar. A leader of the EPRLF and four other terrorists belonging to the same group were killed in this incident.

Deputy Minister, Syrian Envoy Discuss 'Air Piracy'

LD051548 Tehran IRNA in English 1510 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 5, IRNA — Political Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam in a meeting with Syrian Ambassador to Tehran Ibrahim al-Yunis here Wednesday condemned the recent air piracy against a Libyan airliner by the jet fighters of the Zionist regime. Some Syrian officials were on board the seized Libyan airplane. Sheyhk ol-Eslam announced Iran's preparedness to cooperate with Libya and Syria to encounter such actions.

In response, the Syrian ambassador expressed thanks for the Islamic Republic's support and said that Syrian people are proud of Iran which has always helped it and been a good supporter of Syria in her confrontation with their joint enemy (Qods occupying regime).

Musavi Condemns Incident

LD052308 Tehran IRNA in English 1835 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Shiraz, Fars Prov. Feb. 5 IRNA — Speaking to a multitudinous group of people here Wednesday, the prime minister said that the British colonialist power with its small oil reserves is selling its oil 15 to 17 dollars a barrel in an effort to damage the Islamic revolution and the interests of the world's oppressed. Britain's move is aimed at turning the wheels of Western industries and saving those corrupt governments whose survival would guarantee the economic well being of Western industrialized countries, said the prime minister. He noted that the plot will not affect the determination of the Iranian people who are committed to thwarting it.

On the recent air piracy against a Libyan passenger plane by the Zionist regime, the premier said that the criminal U.S. Government which is trampling Black American Muslims under its feet while claiming support for human rights has no alternative but to support the piracy. The premier concluded that the Iranian nation has all but defeated the Iraqi regime which until some time ago was the U.S.'s most powerful puppet government in the region.

Sheykh ol-Eslam, Syrian Envoy Condemn Israel

LD061127 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] According to an IRNA report the Syrian ambassador to Tehran met and talked with Sheykh ol-Eslam, political undersecretary to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iran, yesterday. During the meeting our country's foreign minister undersecretary, condemning the actions of the regime occupying Jerusalem in blatant air piracy against a Libyan airliner carrying Syrian officials, expressed the Iranian Republic of Iran's decisive backing for Syria and Libya and every Iranian cooperation with these countries in their fight against the actions of the Zionist regime.

The Syrian ambassador to Tehran, in turn expressed thanks for the support of the Iranian Republic of Iran and said: In Syria we are proud that Iran has constantly supported us in its steadfastness and resistance to the Zionist regime and is a good supporter of our struggles against this common enemy.

Would-Be Hijacker Killed in Esfahan 5 February

LD061027 Tehran IRNA in English 1013 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 6, IRNA — A culprit who was planning to hijack an Iran air plane in Esfahan Wednesday, [5 February] was killed by the security officers at Esfahan airport and the plot was foiled, the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps announced here Thursday. The plot was uncovered before the plane took off and the would be hijacker, one of the agents of the world arrogance, was killed. The unsuccessful plot was hatched to overshadow the "Ten Day Dawn" celebrations, marking the seventh anniversary of the Islamic revolution of Iran, the announcement said.

Further Reportage on Visit of Libyan Special Envoy

Delivers Al-Qadhdhafi Letter

LD051141 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Sa'd Mujbir, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's special envoy, met with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri yesterday and while conveying greetings, submitted a written message from the Libyan leader to Grand Ayatollah Montazeri. His eminence, while praising the decisive stance of revolutionary Libya against the U.S. threats, announced the support of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the Islamic country of Libya in view of the American conspiracies.

'Air Piracy' Called 'Embarassing Blunder'

LD061603 Tehran IRNA in English 1550 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 6, IRNA — Sa'd Mujbir, special envoy of Libya's leader, met with Majlis speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and conveyed to him a verbal message of Col. Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. He also thanked the speaker for Iran's backing of Libya against the United States plots.

In the meeting, Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani also thanked Libya for its backing of the Islamic revolution of Iran saying that greater unity between the two countries is always welcomed on issues of oil, the Middle East, the Persian Gulf, and the conspiracies hatched against both countries. He added that Muslims should increase their cooperation for thwarting such plots. Iran, he said, has often times announced its firm support for the Libyan nation and government against Washington's plots.

On the recent air piracy of the Zionist regime, Hoj. Rafsanjani said that the U.S. and the Zionist state of Israel have committed an embarassing blunder. They have revealed their deceitful policy and proven their commitment to state terrorism under the guise of securing their "national interests", he said. He said that such acts by the U.S. and the Quds occupying regime thereaten regional security and can only be interpreted that they thrive instability of the regional countries and peoples.

Discusses Airline Incident, U.S. Moves

LD051850 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Sa'd Mujbir, special envoy of the Libyan leader to the Islamic Republic of Iran, replied to questions from domestic and foreign correspondents at a press conference held in Tehran's Esteqlal Hotel this afternoon. He discussed the terrorist role played by the United States and Israel in the hijacking of the Libyan airline and blatant U.S. acts of aggresion against Libyan sovereignty in the Gulf of Sidra.

Condemning the hijacking of the Libyan civilian airliner and violation of the sanctity of international air routes, Sa'd Mujbir referred to the record of aggression perpetrated by Zionism and U.S. imperialism against other countries and deprived nations by saying: The U.S. naval fleet deployed in the waters close to Libyan soil mistakenly informed Israel that the Libyan airliner was carrying a number of Palestine resistance officials and the Zionist regime -- 50 miles from Cypriot territory in international airspace -- hijackedthat airliner. He added: Zionism and U.S. imperialism are accusing Libya of supporting terrorism at a time when civilians are not safe anywhere from rancorous imperialist and terrorist threats.

He then referred to Zionist acts of aggression against the Palestinians in Lebanon, Cyprus, Tunisia, and other parts of the world by saying: Today Zionism is threatening the lives of Palestinians even in the air, and this is tantamount to the fact that Israel intends to wipe out the entire Palestinian nation. Let me ask the question: Why is it that the world peoples, when they know all these problems, condemn the Palestinians instead? Addressing correspondents, Sa'd Mujbir then said: If someone committed an aggression against your country and people, would you shower him with flowers?! Today the Palestinians' independence, land, and identity have been subjecied to the onslaught, but when the Palestine nation defends itself against this aggression, it is then labeled with terrorism! Has not the right of the Palestinians been trampled under foot? The United States and Israel have assailed such a nation; are they not terrorists?

The Libyan leader's special envoy said: We demand the setting up of an international conference against terrorism in order to define what terrorism is, who is a terrorist, and how one could confront terrorism. We will never accept the labeling of someone who fights in defense of his homeland as a terrorist. So do not frighten us with terrorism. Do not make out that right is wrong and wrong is right. Does U.S. support for the counterrevolutionary forces in Nicaragua and Iran not constitute terrorism? Do U.S. measures against the interests of the nations all over the world not constitute terrorism?! Does the dispatch of U.S. naval fleets to various regions of the world and the threatening of the sovereignty of countries not constitute terrorism?

The Libyan leader's special envoy to Iran then referred to the dispatch of the U.S. naval fleet to the Mediterranean and the exercise carried out in close proximity to Libyan territory and, while condemning U.S. claims of labeling the Gulf of Sidra as international, said: The United States considers the Gulf of Sidra as part of international waters and says it has the right to put a naval fleet in this gulf's waters. The United States gives itself the right to come from the other side of the globe to the Gulf of Sidra, which dips inside Libyan territory, while the Libyan nation should not have the right to move to and fro in this gulf. He added: We have not gone to the United States and have not subjected the United States to aggression, but rather, it is the United States which has committed aggression against us and threatened our territorial integrity. Yet, it calls us a terrorist and supporter of terrorism.

In conclusion he said: The roots of terrorism lie in the United States, Europe, and Israel and we, trusting our faith in God, our nation, and arms, are confronting these threats.

Trilateral OPEC Meeting in Libya Issues Press Release

LD051803 Tehran IRNA in English 1727 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, Jan 5, IRNA — Oil ministers of Iran, Libya and Syria [last name as received]concluded their two day meet here Wednesday appealing to the other 10 OPEC member countries to "reinforce the organization's unity at this critical juncture."

In a press release issued at the conclusion of the meet held in the Libyan capital from February 3-5 the ministers of the three countries expressed concern over the instability of the oil market. They also warned that recent political pressures by certain countries were aimed at weakening OPEC. The press release said that the ministers had exchanged views on ways and means to restore the oil market through production management as well as defend the price. It said that falling oil prices adversely affect the economies of oil exporting countries and only several benefit the economic growth of industrialized countries.

It was agreed upon at the trilateral session tht necessary measures to confront falling oil prices would be taken and that greater consultation and coordination with other oil exporting countries would be made. Iran's oil minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh left here Wednesday evening [5 February].

Closure of Cultural Center in Brussels Denied

LD060913 Tehran IRNA in English 0838 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, Feb. 6, IRNA — The Iranian ambassador in Brussels, 'Ali Reza Salari, here Wednesday denied closure of the cultural section of the Iranian Embassy in that city.

Speaking in an interview with IRNA, Salari said that last Tuesday mayor of one of the districts of Brussels, where the cultural section of the Iranian Embassy is located, intended to close down the cultural section. He had invited reporters to cover the incident and had also dispatched police force to the area and installed a notice in front of the entrance door saying that the department is closed down. But, he added, the Belgian Foreign Ministry strongly opposed the action on the grounds that it was outside the authority of the Mayor and would also mar friendly relations between Iran and Belgium.

He further added that the mayor of the said district which is a Muslim neighbourhood, has in several occasions proved his animosity against Muslims. In one instance he had refused to hire

Muslim teachers to teech Islamic codes to the Muslim students which, according to Belgian regulations, should be taught by a Muslim.

Khamene'i Views U.S. Presence in Persian, Sidra Gulfs

GF051509 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 29 Jan 86 p 2

[Excerpt] President Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i in his address yesterday to the commanders and officers in charge of Sarollah Guards, District 1 and the officers in charge of the Guards Corps at Shahr-e Rey, said: The presence and movements of the U.S. fleet in the Gulf of Sidra will not intimidate revolutionary systems.

At this meeting an officer in charge of District 1 said in a brief report that in the 10 Days of Dawn plan in Tehran, 40 divisions of the guards and the mobilized personnel will hold maneuvers. Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i stressed the necessity of frightening the world oppressors by the revolutionary nation of Iran, drawing all levels of people toward the revolution and on the ways and means of holding the 10 Days of Dawn maneuvers.

Hojjat ol-Eslam praised the holding of the 10 Days of Dawn maneuvers. He said: We must constantly intimidate the world oppressors by displaying the true facts. The world oppressors these days are trying to intimidate its enemies, particularly the global revolutionary systems, through hollow propaganda and hues and cries. The dispatching of the U.S. fleet toward the Gulf of Sidra or the presence of another fleet in the Persian Gulf, or delivering warnings to aircraft not to close in toward the fleet, will not intimidate the global revolutionary systems and the systems of the Islamic Republic. The reason is that their threats and armament are not real or effective.

The Supreme Defense Council chairman said that the existence of the Islamic Republic was a danger to the global oppressors. He added: Our presence among the oppressed nations represents a threat to the world oppressors because the growing waves of the message and movement of the Islamic Republic carries a real threat to the global oppressors.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i added: The marches of the people in streets, the maneuvers of the revolution forces on the historical day, and the holding of these ceremonies are threats. With these threats the world oppressors will be forced to withdraw from the region because they will see that there is no room for them.

The president said that the greatest difficulty of the world oppressors was that they have no roots, no foundation. He then compared our system of revolution with that of the world oppressors. He said: If we do not have anything, even then we are like a tree which has its roots deep in earth. These roots represent the roots of the people, and their acceptance of the system of the Islamic Republic and our faith in Islam and in the Islamic tenets.

It is the people who determine action and the presence of the people in our system is a threat to the enemy and a source of hope to our friends. This is very important; it should not be taken lightly. In front of the deep-rooted tree of the Islamic Republic, world oppression is like a huge and capacious cylinder without any roots lying on the surface of the earth; any strong wind can blow it away.

President Addresses Diplomatic Corps on Anniversary

LD052148 Tehran IRNA in English 1812 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 5 IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i received here Wednesday [5 February] heads of diplomatic corps and of international organizations in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In the meeting, the Romanian Ambassador to Tehran and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps Nicolae Stefan congratulated President Khamene'i on the occasion of the seventh anniversary of the Islamic revolution on behalf of himself and the visiting diplomatic corps.

Romanian ambassador lauded the uncompromising policy of the Islamic Republic and its emphasis on friendly relations with the foreign countries and particularly with its neighbors. Expressing willingness on behalf of the participants for expansion of friendly relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran, Nicolae Stefan thanked the Iranian Government for its cooperation with foreign diplomats.

President Khamene'i said that the Iranian nation and the Islamic Republic takes pride in the acheivements of the government during the past seven years. He said Iran has decided to found the future of the country and the revolution on the basis of the precious experiences of the past years. These experiences, he added, showed the Iranian nation that the Islamic Republic's national and foreign policies are sound and proper. Khamane'i added that the Islamic Republic tries to stick to those principles.

The president said the groundwork of Iran's foreign policy is its commitment to establish sound relations with the governments which respect the Islamic Revolution and the Islamic Government. Khamene'i further said that Iran's neighbouring countries and those which advocated friendly and sincere relations with Iran from the beginning of the Islamic revolution and also non-aligned countries have enjoyed a specially-favoured status in their relations with Iran.

The president emphasized that Iran has always believed in resistance against aggression and has always stressed that any set-back and compromise with the aggressors will serve to encourage the aggressors.

Khamene'i further said that the Islamic Republic of Iran has expected the international organizations and other governments to condemn aggression. Iran, he added, believes that to publicly condemn the aggressor and have the world nations ostracize an aggressor state is one good move for curing the spirit of aggressiveness on the part of governments.

The president further said the same principle holds true with the Iraqi aggressive regime. He said if the Iraqi regime had been denounced for its blatant invasion of Iran, the imposed war would long since had ended.

Further Details

LD051443 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Excerpts] According to a report of the Central News Unit, on the fifth day of 10-Days of Dawn, today, heads of diplomatic representatives and offices of the international organizations of the Islamic Republic of Iran met with President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i. On the basis of this report, which became ready for broadcasting right now, first Mr Nicolae Stefan, the ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Romania in the Islamic Republic of Iran (IRI), on behalf of the foreign envoys and heads of the representative offices of the international organizations in Iran, offered congratulations to His Great Eminence Imam Khomeyni, the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, to the president and the nation of Iran on the occasion of the seventh anniversary of victory of the Iranian Islamic revolution.

Afterward, President Khamene'i thanked the foreign envoys and said: Our nation has seen 7 years of epic and enthusiasm since the revolution, and thanks to its relentless struggle and the succor of Almighty God, it has achieved great successes. Today, after 7 years, we are proud of our government's and nation's achievements and are pleased to see that our victory did not lead to unemployment, recession, stagnation, and contentment with minor goals. Thanks be to God that the people's struggle and hard work brought about great desirable results.

The president added: We are determined to lay the foundation of our country's and revolution's future on the precious experience gained during the past few years. Experience proves that our principles in foreign and domestic policies have been right and reliable; we will try to maintain our principles, and on this basis we will open new ways of expanding and deepening the glory of happy life to our people.

Mr Khamene'i went on: We are certain that our people, with their innate intelligence, desire for independence, efforts and manpower, will succeed in removing the biggest difficulties from the path of the state and the revolution; and we proclaim the good news that, thanks to our country's immense resources, we can strive for people's comfort, security and realization of their spiritual and material aspirations, and we shall achieve good results.

The president added: In our foreign policy, sensitivity against aggressions has played a special role and we have always tried to denounce bullying in any corner of the world by any violating power. A clear example of this is our decisive stance vis-a-vis the Palestine problem, our defense of the oppressed and deprived Palestinians and our uncompromising struggle against the usurping government of Palestine and the racist regime of South Africa.

The president, while stressing that we have always believed in resistance against aggression and we have always reiterated that any retreat and compromise vis-a-vis an aggressor would bring nothing but intensification of the aggression, stated: Simultaneous with the protest movements of the people of Lebanon and Palestine against the occupying regime of Palestine, and simultaneous with the birth of the fundamental ideology of steadfastness vis-a-vis this aggressive regime, we clearly witnessed the signs of that regime's defeat and retreat in Lebanon. We always expected international organizations and governments to show the same degree of decisiveness against aggression and we expected them to condemn aggression. We think that condemnation and denunciation of aggression, in order to make the aggressor feel rejection and disapproval by international organizations and governments, would be the best treatment against the very deadly disease of aggression, which brings great losses to nations and governments.

Referring to the fact that Israel and South Africa should be denounced by international organizations and governments for their continuous and repeated aggressions -, the latest example of which was yesterday's aggression against a Libyan airliner -- the president said: The same applies to the Iraqi aggressive regime. If the Iraqi regime had been condemned for its blatant violation along our country's borders, the war would surely have ended by now.

In conclusion, addressing the foreign diplomatic envoys in Tehran, the president added: You are engaged in your political endeavors during a sensitive period in our country, because you are present in the most important turning point of our political history. We believe that our struggle, effort and ambition will be destiny-making for our country's future.

Foreign Guests Watch Hormuz Naval Maneuvers

GF060604 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Special naval maneuvers of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran were successfully conducted yesterday afternoon in the waters of the Persian Gulf, the Gulf of Oman, and in the important and strategic area of the Strait of Hormuz before a group of foreign guests attending the 10 Days of Dawn celebrations. The Central News Unit correspondent in Bandar-e 'Abbas has the following report:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] The foreign guests of the 10 Days of Dawn of the Islamic revolution witnessed the successful completion of special maneuvers staged by the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Persian Gulf, the Gulf of Oman, and the important and strategic Strait of Hormuz.

The foreign guests today visited the port facilities of Martyr Raja'i and Martyr Bahonar. They then travelled to the Strait of Hormuz aboard the *Khark* frigate. From there they watched the operations of the brave men of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran. During the maneuvers, staged by several destroyers, the Navy controlled the area and shot at designated targets in various places. Thus, the foreign guests saw the fighting power and the operational abilities of the various units of the Islamic Republic Navy.

During these maneuvers, Pakistani, Bengali, Japanese, and Chinese guests expressed hope for success for the warriors of Islam in the fight against the heretic Saddamists and commented on the importance of the Strait of Hormuz. They said: What is certain is that the Islamic revolution acts will strengthen in the area and the economic maritime bottleneck of the region is now

under the control of the Islamic Republic. If it wants to act, its military might is very powerful.

One Japanese guest compared the Iranian Navy with other naval powers in the area. He said: I must say that nothing except true independence and real faith in a great leader could bring so much power and so much readiness. When I return to my country I shall often speak of this love and faith.

The foreign guests of the 10 Days of Dawn of the Islamic revolution also visited facilities and storage areas of the Martyr Bahonar Port in Bandar-e 'Abbas and witnessed efforts of the office of shipping and ports in Hormozgan Province. Following prayers held in the prayer room of the Martyr Bahonar port, they were taken to the Martyr Raja'i jetty aboard a dredger and visited various parts of the jetty and its great facilities. They observed the efforts of the officials of the jetty.

During the visit, the reporter from the *HONG KONG HERALD*, one of the guests told our correspondent: This is my first trip and I am very happy. Everything speaks of success. I must say that Islam is truly victorious.

The foreign guests who had travelled to Hormozgan Province to witness the social and economic progress and also the political strategic location of the province, saw various industrial projects, port facilities, and economic projects in Bandar-e 'Abbas. During several interviews with correspondents of the Central News Unit they not only expressed their support for the actions of the Islamic warriors, they announced that true independence could be seen in the Islamic Republic. They stated that they would look upon the Islamic Republic of Iran as a republic that will always be successful. [end recording]

Aside from political issues, economic issues are very important and -- due to their connections with political issues and the long-term efforts of colonialism to control this area -- merit some deep thought. Due to the complicated nature of economic relationships today and the connection that these issues have with the structure of international economy, any changes and corrections not only take a longer time but also require a more aware and planned program. The Islamic Republic of Iran has taken steps in some economic aspects, particularly those of commercial ties with the outside world and the cutting off of dependence, all of which are very important and are considered positive achievements.

However, as economic officials of the country have repeatedly and clearly stressed, there is a long way to go before an economic system based on Islamic values can be reached. The implementation of Islamic values in economic affairs, together with the proper understanding of the economic (?priorities) of the country today, as well as patient and informed planning to achieve desired future goals — this being the establishment of an independent economic system based on Islam — are the tools for traveling this road. It should be noted that one of the most important duties of the Shi'ite clergy at this point in time is to review this matter.

Social matters are among those issues which require forethought, a great deal of (?high ideals), and correct understanding of the social aspect and its connection with other fields. The correction of social ties, which are the results of centuries of dictatorial rule, will require time, (?perseverance), and delicacy more than any other aspect. In addition, continuous and expanding communication between various countries in itself makes people of one country prone to influence by the culture of other societies. In addition, in prerevolution Iran the oppressors and the lackey regime of Pahlavi tried for dozens of years to destroy social values and replace them with Western culture.

In short, it is the duty of all Muslim intellectuals to think with awareness and feeling about the issues of the Islamic revolution while celebrating the epics of victory with the people in this auspicious 10 Days of Dawn and, while strengthening positive achievements, they should find correct solutions for weaknesses. In this respect, we can consider the Conference on Islamic Thought which is held annually on this occasion a positive step in meeting this need. In addition, every year more steps should be taken to deepen the contents of this conference. In conjunction with this, it is the duty of all those in charge of the affairs of the country to pay heed to and act according to the guidance of the revolutionary leadership and improve the direction of national affairs every day.

Commentary on 10 Days of Dawn Anniversary
GF010856 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0448 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The 7th 10 Days of Dawn anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran begins today. In other words, the Islamic revolution enters its 8th year of life. Therefore, in our program today, we will briefly review the achievements of the years following the victory of the revolution and then review the most important issues and problems facing the revolution. There is no doubt that a look at the events from 1977 [as heard] onward shows that during the past 7 years this country and its Islamic ummah have undergone the most destiny-making period of their existence. These events are worthy of detailed review and examination both from the point of view of the effects they have had on the domestic scene, as well as their effects on the national values of Islamic Iran and their immense repercussions internationally.

The overthrow of the dictatorship and 2,500 years of monarchy and the establishment of a republican regime based on Islamic values may be considered the most important political achievement of the revolution. But its importance is not that a regime collapsed and another system appeared. Its importance is in understanding the bitter fact that the monarchy, aside from being a dictatorial regime, influenced all economic, cultural, political, moral, and other aspects of life in the country placed a small group of people who were connected with the court or the shah in charge of all the affairs of the country. As a result of this mixing of the foundations of the regime of monarchy with all aspects of the country on one side and the nature of the Islamic revolutionary movement based on the demands and Islamic aspirations of the multitude of the masses of the martyr-nurturing Iranian nation on the other, it was clear that the Islamic revolution would subject almost all aspects of social life

in the country to change. The important point here is to realize the fact that any change or correction, subject to all its conditions, requires a certain period of time. This is why the lackey former political regime changed and the Islamic government rapidly took its place. For this reason changes in the decadent and dualist cultural values of the past will require a long time to be implemented, considering the length of time it took them to form and their delicate and complicated nature.

Considering this, we can say that in some aspects the Islamic revolution of Iran has made great achievements, while in other aspects a great deal of effort is required before the goals are reached and Islamic values are realized. The stabilization of the political foundations of the Islamic system and its enforcement in international diplomacy is one of the most successful achievements of the Islamic Republic. This issue is complemented by the fact that today Islam enjoys a decisive role in social movements, particularly in freedom movements and movements in the Third World.

In addition, it should be noted that the realization and true understanding of the unjust exchanges currently present in the complicated world of today on the one hand, and the realistic evaluation of the true capabilities of Muslims on the other, along with assuming appropriate policies at every instance, guarantees the continuation of the Islamic revolution of Iran and the realization of the victory of Islamic movements.

The effort currently being made by the regimes ruling the world to understand the Islamic movement is in itself the best reason for the importance of concentrated awareness in facing world issues and correct measures to oppose the plots of enemies.

It should be noted that proper reactions by the Islamic Republic with respect to the war imposed by Iraq on Iran and the heroic resistance of the people have played an important role in achieving the political goals of the revolution.

In addition, it should not be forgotten that after 5 years of war, many of the political issues of the country are effectively tied to the war.

Foreign Minister Receives First Malaysian Envoy

LD041513 Tehran IRNA in English 1435 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb 4, IRNA — The first Malaysian ambassador to Iran Ahmad Faiz ibn Abdul Hamid met with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati here Monday and submitted Velayati a copy of his credentials.

At the meeting, the foreign minister expressed hope that the relations between Iran and Malaysia would expand in various fields especially in the areas of economics and culture. The foreign minister said that exchange of political delegations at different levels between the two countries would strengthen bilateral relations.

The Malaysian ambassador expressed satisfaction at his being appointed here and said Malaysia is prepared to enhance its relations with Iran in many fields especially trade.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No. 2,372

LD051725 Tehran IRNA in English 1711 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 5, IRNA — At least 25 Iraqi soldiers were killed and wounded, several bunkers destroyed and some heavy and light vehicles damaged as a result of Iranian artillery fire in western fronts, according to a communique released by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here Wednesday.

In its communique number 2372, the command says Iranian combatants forced an Iraqi patrol unit to flee by their heavy fire near Sumar and Kani-Sheykh.

Iran's anti-aircraft fire forced Iraqi planes to flee from northwestern operational regions, says the command. Muslim combatants also silenced Iraqi artillery fire in these regions destroying several gun emplacements and killing or wounding some Iraqi soldiers, it added.

In the southern fronts Iranian forces checked all enemy's engineerinng activities. They also neutralized enemy minefields near Nahr-e Anbar and halted their road building activities in Yebis area, the communique says. Muslim combatants also dispatched reconnaissance and patrols in the said areas inflicting losses and casualties on Ba'thist forces.

Meanwhile, Iraqi long range fire caused slight damaged in Abadan in Khuzestan Province.

Communique No 2,373

LD061540 Tehran IRNA in English 1520 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 6, IRNA — Iran's Muslim combatants almost pounded non-stop Iraqi positions and supply routes in Bakhtaran and Ilam border fronts Wednesday killing at least 10 Iraqi soldiers and destroying several gun emplacements, observation posts and light and heavy vehicles, according to a military communique released by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here Thursday.

In its communique number 2373, the command says that in the southern fronts Wednesday Iranian forces opened heavy artillery and mortar fire on Iraqi command outposts and other logistic locations and checked reconnaissance flights of Iraqi war planes and helicopters specially over Hoseyniyeh and Shalacheh.

In areas overlooking Talaiyeh and Kushk, Iranian artillery fire halted the movement of an Iraqi tank column and elsewhere in Yebis inflicted casualities on an engineering patrol unit of Iraqi forces Wednesday.

The Joint Staff communique says the exchange of fire between Iranian Muslim combatants and Iraqi troops continued throughout the fronts Wednesday raging somewhat more intensely in Doletto and Jasusan, northwestern fronts, in Qasr-e Shirin and Sumar, western fronts and in Shahrani, Bayat, Kushk, and Talaiyeh, southern fronts.

Meanwhile Iraqi long-range artillery fire on the city of Abadan in Khuzestan province damaged some locations and buildings in the city Wednesday.

Tudeh Draft Program Calls for Khomeyni's Overthrow

PM061443 London MORNING STAR in English 6 Feb 86 p 5

[Roger Trask report: "Tudeh Party Call To Oust Khomeyni"]

[Text] Popular armed struggle is the principle method for the overthrow of the Khomeyni regime, says the Tudeh Party of Iran in its new draft programme released in London yesterday.

"The ruling Islamic Republican regime has intertwined its existence with the suppression of all opposition and its continued survival has come to be dependent on its rule of terror and repression within the society," says the draft.

Originally published in the party's central organ *NAMEH MARDOM*, the draft programme concludes that: "Under these conditions the principal method of struggle to overthrow the present regime and establish a national and democratic government is popular armed struggle."

The party will do "all in its power to convince and prepare the working class and other labouring classes" for this strategy to overthrow the regime, says the draft.

And it calls as a matter of urgency for "the formation of a united popular front of forces believing in freedom, independence, social justice and peace."

"The unity of all national, democratic and anti-imperialist forces" in such a front with its transformation into "an active political force with a joint programme will guarantee the victory of the revolution," says the party.

The draft analyses how the Islamic Republican government, founded following the 1979 revolution, has now turned into a rabid counter-revolution regime hostile to any changes in Iranian society.

But, says the Tudeh Party, the country's recent history shows "the futility of the capitalist path of development and its impotence to overcome historical backwardness and acute social problems.

The termination of the rule of the big capitalists and landowners and corrupt bureaucratic bourgeoisie" is necessary for revolutionary advance.

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

7 FEBRUARY 1986

Further Developments Following Interception of Libyan Plane

Tripoli radio reported that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi issued a statement to foreign journalists in Tripoli in which he said he had "issued orders to the Libyan Arab Air Force to intercept any Israeli passanger airliner" flying over the Mediterranean "as long as it is within range of Libyan air bases." The purpose would be to "search its passengers one by one, looking for Israeli terrorists wanted by Libyan courts."

Reporting the U.S. veto of Syria's resolution at the UN Security Council condemning Israel, Damascus radio said the U.S. delegate defended Israel's "air piracy," adding that this new U.S. veto is the third which the United States has used in less than 1 month to prevent Israel being condemned. The Soviet foreign minister had earlier expressed the USSR's condemnation of Israel's latest "terrorist operation" in a message to his Syrian counterpart reported by Damascus television. As for the Israeli-Syrian military situation, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon cited an AP report that Israeli and Syrian troops have been placed on alert in preparation for a possible confrontation in the Mount Hermon area.

PDRY

The YSP Central Committee elected 'Ali Salim al-Bid as its secretary general and Salim Salih Muhammad as assistant secretary general, the Central Committee announced in a statement broadcast by Aden radio. The statement also noted the election of a number of new Central Committee and Political Bureau members, as well as the appointment of new officials to head the YSP organization in Abyan, Aden, and Shabwah Governorates.

Egypt's *AL-JUMHURIYAH* claimed in a 4 February report that Ethiopia recently refused a Soviet request to send 'Ali Nasir Muhammad to Moscow, asserting that this led to a "crisis" in Soviet-Ethiopian relations.

Gulf Shipping Attacks

An Iranian aircraft was probably responsible for a 6 February attack on a Cypriot tanker off Qatar, according to a Lloyds of London statement cited by Nicosia radio. The ship's captain told QNA that the tanker was "completely destroyed" by the rocket attack and ensuing fire aboard the vessel, which was en route for Kuwait. Although most of the crew were evacuated, two are seriously injured and four are missing, he disclosed.

In a subsequent development, an Iraqi military source cited by INA announced that Iraqi planes hit a large maritime target near the Iranian coast and raided Khark Island the morning of 7 February.

Israel-Egypt

Israeli Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche stated that the Israeli-Egyptian talks in Cairo made "progress," though there was no breakthrough, Jerusalem radio reported. The talks will resume in Israel on 11 February and will continue until the end of next week, the radio said. The spokesman for the Egyptian delegation noted "some disagreement" between the two sides on elements of the "arbitration compromise" on the Taba issue, according to Cairo radio.

Inter-Arab

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat denied "tendentious rumors" about the existence of PLO-Jordanian differences in an interview with the Paris magazine *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* cited by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio. He also reaffirmed the PLO's rejection of all resolutions or plans that treat the Palestinian issue as a refugee problem. Meanwhile, 'Arafat's adviser Hani al-Hasan told Radio Monte Carlo that the PLO leader submitted three proposals to King Husayn during their latest talks, held in Amman 5 February, and he noted that recent PLO-Jordanian discussions have focused on the PLO's concern that UN Security Council Resolution 242 deals with the Palestinian cause only as a refugee issue. Jordan and Egypt are trying to clarify the U.S. stand on Resolution 242, he added, and the PLO is waiting for an official U.S. response.

In Israel, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres maintained that nothing has come out of the negotiations between King Husayn and 'Arafat, Jerusalem radio reported.

Moroccan Denial on Asylum for Duvalier

An "authoritative" Moroccan source cited by AFP denied a U.S. report that Haitian President Jean-Claude Duvalier will travel to Morocco, asserting that his arrival is "out of the question."

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Commentary Attacks Reagan Support for Rebels
LD062240 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Commentary by BAKHTAR political commentator]

[Text] Recently U.S. President Ronald Reagan, in the course of his report to Congress, stated that his government is rendering broad assistance ot the so-called freedom fighters in the world and made particular mention of Afghanistan, Nicaragua, Kampuchea and Angola.

President Reagan once again tried, by hypocritically referring to the so-called freedom fighters, to praise the professional criminals who, in order to achieve the sinister aims of U.S. imperialism, engage in the most shameful inhuman acts and give a legal basis to his illegal military assistance to the agents of the CIA in the [words indistinct] countries, including the DRA.

It is a well known fact that the Washington Administration terms illegal all those countries who choose an independent path and oppose the adventurist policy of U.S. imperialism, and labels their opponents as freedom fighters in order to provide grounds for possible (?attack) for their destruction in the future.

The ruler of the White House has declared with particular daring his support for the counterrevolutionaries of those countries that have truly popular and national democratic regimes and pursue anti-imperialist policy, but he has not made any mention of his puppets who are unprecedented in the record of human crimes. The Israeli Zionists, the racists in Chile and South Africa, the junta of El Salvador, the blood-sucking regime of Ziaul Haq in Pakistan, who are shedding the blood of thousands of struggling sons and patriots, are marks of disgrace on the forehead of U.S. imperialism. Mr Reagan should have mentioned them first of all.

The peoples of the world know that the Washington Administration gives military assistance worth hundreds of millions of dollars to the counterrevolutionaries of Nicaragua, Angola, Kampuchea and Afghanistan. The Afghan counterrevolutionary bands have so far received military assistance worth more than $1.5 billion from the United States and during the current year alone (?will) receive military assistance more than $470 million from the Reagan administration.

The question asked here is, what results have been achieved from the bountiful aid that Mr Reagan and his partners have so far given to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries and yet promises them further assistance? The answer is crystal clear: the murder of women, children and old men; the destruction of schools, hospitals, bridges, roads and other public utility establishments; the poisoning of the atmosphere of schools and drinking water and hundreds of other crimes, which have been perpetrated by the Afghan counterrevolutionaries with the help of Mr Reagan's dollars; these are the results of this so-called humanitarian assistance.

This is not the first time that Mr Reagan, in collaboration with the rebellious bands of the Afghan counterrevolutionaries, has openly revealed his hostile stand against Afghanistan. Some time ago he received a counterrevolutionary group in the White House and shed crocodile tears for the so-called misfortune of the people of Afghanistan. Under this pretext and scenario, he promised to supply the Afghan counterrevolutionaries with the most modern lethal weapons made in the United States.

If we compare new the words of Mr Reagan with his actions, we correctly realize the sinister essence and aims of his administration. Speaking on the 40th anniversary of the United Nations, Mr Reagan in front of all nations of the world hypocritically spoke about the solution of regional disputes. However, at the same time he expressed his support for the counterrevolutionaries of the liberated countries, including the DRA.

Now once again the White House boss with complete disgrace, has declared assistance to the counterrevolutionaries of Afghanistan, Angola, Nicaragua and Kampuchea — countries that have chosen the path of prosperity and indepeadent policy for their people.

The recent announcement by Ronald Reagan in the U.S. Congress concerning further assistance to the counterrevolutionary bands of the liberated countries, among them the DRA, shows that the Washington Administration does not want to put an end to the imperialist war against our country. It is trying to give expanded dimension to the war againt the DRA. However, imperialism is doomed by the dictate of history. The future belongs to the people of Afghanistan.

PDPA Sends Message to Cuban CP Congress
LD061955 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 Feb 86

[PDPA Central Committee message to participants in Third Cuban Communist Party Congress in Havana]

[Text] Dear comrades. The PDPA Central Committee expresses its best comradely congratulations to you on the occasion of the convocation of the Third Congress of the Cuban Communist Party, this valuable event in the life of the heroic party and people of Cuba, and wishes you success in the work of this congress.

The purposeful and indefatigable struggles of the Communist Party of Cuba, the vanguard of the working class and all toilers of Cuba, on the path of bringing to victory the first popular revolution and the daily increasing consolidation of its gains in the Western hemisphere against the arbitrary threats and aggressions of North America, are a turning point in the history of liberation movements in Latin America and are counted as a source of inspiration and pride for all international revolutionary forces, including the PDPA and the people of the DRA.

The third congress of the Communist Party of Cuba is being convened under conditions when a new wave of adventurist and militarist interventions and threats by the Reagan administration has been mounted against the peoples of Central America and in particular against heroic revolutionary Cuba.

We profoundly believe that, just as all intrigues and conspiracies of imperialism -- headed by U.S. imperialism -- have always been confronted by the resolute struggle of the struggling people of

Cuba under the leadership of the Communist Party of Cuba and have been foiled, in the future they will not succeed in blocking the building progressive socialism in that country.

The consistent enhancement of the role of revolutionary Cuba in the Nonaligned Movement, the enhancement of its international prestige and the resolute and unstinting support by the world's peace-loving and progressive forces, in particular the fraternal family of the socialist countries led by the Soviet Union, are all pleasing advances in which the PDPA and the people of the DRA, on the side of other progressive forces of our time, consider themselves as partners.

The PDPA Central Committee, expressing satisfaction at the existing good relations, which are being broadened and consolidated form day to day in accordance with the principles of revolutionary solidarity, once again expresses its sincere, friendly and fraternal best wishes for the successful work of the Third Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba and wishes it the greatest victories in leading the Cuban society and people. With warm, comradely congratulations.

[Signed] The PDPA Central Committee

Daily Comments on 'Uselessness' of War

LD040622 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Kabul, February 3, BAKHTAR — The policy of non-alignment, peaceful co-existence and friendship among peoples constitute the cornerstone of the DRA foreign policy, writes daily *HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR*.

The leadership of the DRA consistently strives to defend the principles of good-neighbourliness, fruitful mutual cooperation and the solution of the existing problems through peaceful means.

The constructive proposals of the DRA dated 14 May 1980 and August 24, 1981 and the rational approach of the DRA towards the Geneva talks testify to this fact, the daily adds.

The world public opinion particularly the peace-loving and realist forces have no doubt on the true purport of the DRA and the constructive nature of its domestic and foreign policy aimed at ensuring peace and deescalating tension in the region.

The situation of our region basically changed in the last few years. Today ever-greater number of people are coming to realize the futility and the uselessness of the undeclared war launched by the imperialist powers to topple the people's power in Afghanistan.

They continue their fight against the blatant interference of the imperialist and reactionary countries into the internal affairs of the DRA and demand direct talks to be conducted between the DRA and Pakistan, the daily concluded.

Gandhi Leaves for 3-Day Visit to Maldives

BK070303 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and Mrs Sonia Gandhi, left New Delhi this morning for Maldives on a 3-day visit. The finance minister, Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh, is accompanying the prime minister. Mr Gandhi was seen off at the airport by his ministerial colleagues.

Asked about the aim of the visit, the prime minister said before emplaning that it is to enhance friendship between the two countries. He will discuss matters of bilateral interests during his talks with the Maldives president, Mr Gayoom.

Our correspondent says an agreement on economic and technical cooperation is to be signed during Mr Gandhi's visit. He will also exchange views on matters relating to regional interests.

Reaction to Israeli Interception of Libyan Plane

Syria Asks Nonaligned Aid

BK060412 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Syria has requested India and other countries to take immediate steps to prevent Israel from its continuing terrorist activities against the Gulf countries. In an urgent message to the Indian foreign minister, Mr Bali Ram Bhagat, and leaders of Arab League and the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO], the Syrian foreign minister, Mr Faruq Shar' said Israeli interception of the Libyan aircraft carrying Syrian diplomats on Tuesday was a violation of all international laws and norms. He urged the Nonaligned Movement and other international bodies to take deterrent measures against Israel to end its terrorist acts and air piracy in the region.

Bhandari: Violation of International Law

BK061505 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1431 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Following is the text of reply given by the foreign secretary on the evening of 5 February in response to queries from press regarding recent hijacking by Israel of a Libyan aircraft.

"We are shocked by reports that a Libyan aircraft was intercepted in international airspace yesterday by Israeli fighters and forced to land at an Israeli airfield. This is in complete violation of international law, and we are appalled that this outrage has been committed, not by a few desperate outlaws, but by a government that is supposed to protect and uphold, and not violate, the rule of law.

"The Government of India condemns terrorism in all its forms. We think that acts of political violence do not solve any problems, they only compound them. The hijacking of aircraft as a means of attacting attention to their cause has been the misguided ploy of terrorists, and has been universally condemned. We are disturbed by the trend emerging over the last few months, whereby states have stooped to the tactics and morality of terrorists. We think this is totally reprehensible, and we hope that all governments will act with the sense of responsibility and moderation that is expected of them".

Bhagat Expresses 'Concern' at Extremists in UK

BK050308 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr B.R. Bhagat, has voiced India's concern at the spurt of extremist activities in Britain. He warned that the close Indo-British ties may be adversely affected unless prompt and effective action is taken by the British authorities to deal with the situation. Mr Bhagat, who made a stopover at London on his way to Washington, told PTI that it is the responsibility of the British Government to provide protection to the members of the Indian community there.

Continuing Reportage on Sikh Unrest in Punjab

Educational Institutions Closed 7-8 Feb

BK070301 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] In Punjab, all educational institutions have been closed for today and tomorrow as a precautionary measure. According to an official spokesman, this has been done in view of a call for a strike by the All India Sikh Students Federation for tomorrow.

Assam Moves To Identify Illegal Immigrants

HK061314 Hong Kong AFP in English 1255 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Gauhati, India, Feb 6 (AFP) — The state government in Assam is to set up tribunals to identify foreigners who had illegally settled in the state, officials have said.

Interior Minister, Bhrigu Phukan, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE yesterday that the tribunals would be set up along with a special department to implement an accord signed last August between the federal government and leaders of anti-immigration groups in the state. The agreement cleared the way for state elections in December which swept the Assam People's Conference (APC) to power over the Congress (I) Party of Premier Rajiv Gandhi.

Under the accord, anyone fownd to have illegally entered Assam after 1971 was to be deported, while those who had arrived between 1966 and 1971 were to be stripped of their voting rights for 10 years. The agreement ended six years of campaigning by the anti-immigration groups who claimed that some five million illegal immigrants had entered Assam since independence in 1947, mostly from Bangladesh. Mr Phukan said before going to New Delhi for talks that the detection of foreigners "will have to be done as per the Assam accord".

State Chief Minister Prafulla Kumar Mahanta, who accompanied Mr Phukan to New Delhi said later in the capital that the infiltration of illegal immigrants was still underway, although on

a lesser scale. He said he would again discuss plans to build a fence around Assam with federal government leaders today.

Sources in the Bengali-speaking Moslem dominated United Minority Front [UMF]said they would "firmly resist" the implementation of the accord, particularly in those areas where minorities were living. The UMF emerged the third largest group in the state elections after the APC and Congress Parties. Their main campaign plank was opposition to the accord.

Bhagat Criticizes U.S. Arms Supply to Pakistan

BK061034 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr Bali Ram Bhagat, has told the members of the U.S. House Foreign Relations Committee that continued supply of sophisticated weapons to Pakistan will push up the arms race in the subcontinent. He said this will force India to divert resources from development to armament. During an hour-long meeting with seven members of the committee, Pakistan's nuclear program and the threat created by it also came up. He said there is no way India can be sure of any kind of verification arrangement with Pakistan of each other's nuclear facilities.

The members asked questions relating to Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, and other issues. Mr Bhagat apprised them of the situation in Sri Lanka and the initiatives taken by the prime minister to bring peace to the island.

On the economic front, Mr Bhagat spoke of the importance of IDA funds for India's development. Later during a meeting with the American defense secretary, Mr Caspar Weinberger, Mr Bhagat discussed the subject of technology transfer. He told him that there was scope for expanding area of cooperation.

Meanwhile, India and the United States have decided to set up a working group on narcotics to check the flow of drugs between the two countries. Narcotics will now be the fifth area of cooperation coming under the Indo-U.S. joint commission besides education, agriculture, science and technology, and economic cooperation.

Jayewardene's 'Military Solution' Criticized

BK060844 Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English 28 Jan 86 p 5

[Editorial:""Sri Lanka's New Stance"]

[Text] The reported statement of Sri Lanka President Jayewardene that he would depend on a military solution to the ethnic problem comes as a surprise to those well-wishers who are hoping that a negotiated settlement would be found to this issue. Mr Jayewardene had expressed the same sentiment when Pakistan President Zia visited Sri Lanka after the SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] summit in December last. Now he says that the Sri Lankan army is being trained by Pakistan and its air force by some other country.

This statement of the President, if it is true, has many implications and far-reaching consequences. To begin with, it calls an end to all efforts for a negotiated settlement — not just the Thimpu round which is only stalemated, but also other attempts — and sets the island republic on a totally unpredictable course. It is not that Mr Jayewardene is unaware of the implications of his statement. Nor can others be insensitive to the compulsions that might have prompted him to go in for a "hard choice". He reportedly said that Mr Rajiv Gandhi "must do in Sri Lanka what he did in Punjab and Assam." Is it not precisely what Mr Gandhi is trying by initiating the Thimpu round of talks and insisting on a negotiated settlement in face of stiff opposition to it?

Mr Gandhi did not even mind his party losing power in Punjab and Assam if it helped solve the problems on hand. Mr Gandhi's bona fides as far as his conviction in negotiated settlement of disputes is concerned is more than proved by his actions. But the point that needs to be borne in mind is not the present character of the Sri Lanka ethnic problem but its cause and effect. With the economy of Sri Lanka already in a shambles, the question that must be considered is: Is escalation of military expenditure the right thing to do? It can impoverish the nation and severely affect the life of every citizen and that in the long run can be more dangerous than the allegedly slow and even sometimes tiring process of trying to solve the problem through talks. After all, the problem as such cannot be bombed although its protagonists can be. That is no solution: Sri Lanka has every right to do what it deems fit but it is always good to remember the geopolitical factors that decide history.

Commentary Reviews Economic Cooperation With USSR

BK041435 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1340 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Commentary on India-Soviet economic cooperation by M. Ramachandran of the UNITED NEWS OF INDIA]

[Text] Indo-Soviet trade is traditionally based on long-term 5-year agreement. Recently, the two countries have signed an agreement for the period 1986-90 providing for a turnover totaling 90 billion rupees, almost double the 1981-85 figure. The trade turnover during 1985 was of the order of 46 billion rupees and was an increase of 20 percent over 1984, which itself was a record in bilateral trade. The exports from India to the Soviet Union was around 26 billion rupees and imports touched about 22 billion rupees. The protocol for 1985 envisaged a significant breakthrough in many sectors of India's exports. This was particularly so in the case of chemicals and allied products with a growth rate of 43 percent, textiles 36 percent and engineering goods 25 percent. For the first time in 1985 synthetic rubber and several chemicals were added to the list of items of import from the Soviet Union.

The visit of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to the Soviet Union in May last year yielded beneficial results. The Soviet Union extended 1,000 million ruble credit to India. Of this, 250 million rubles were earmarked for the coal sector. The credit is to be utilized for the ongoing Soviet aided projects and some new projects already approved by the public investment board of the

union government. One of the major projects that has been lined up for the utilization of this credit is the development of the Godavari coal belt in the southern state of Andhra Pradesh. Godavari coal fields are virgin site and rough estimates put coal reserves that would last over 50 years. The Soviet credit would also be utilized for developing the Khadia mining project in Uttar Pradesh, which will produce 4 million tons coal a year. Coal production from the mine is expected to start from 1988. Another aspect of this credit is that an open cast mine in the Jharia coal belt, along with the commissioning of a washery and an underground mine at (Sitanala), will also be developed.

Among the new projects which will receive Soviet assistance are the 6-million-ton refinery at Karnal and the 1,000 megawatt superthermal power station at Kahalgaon in Bihar and some power stations at Bhilai steel plant. An oil exploration agreement covering Cambay and Cauvery regions had also been signed during the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi's visit to the Soviet Union. Accordingly, the Soviet Union has agreed to undertake the entire exploration and drilling work and also financial credits covering 70 percent of the cost. Both the regions have been identified for intensive integrated oil and gas exploration and the entire project will take 5 years.

On the textile front, the Soviet Union has linked purchases of cotton textile items from India with the supply of sophisticated machinery. According to a broad understanding reached, the Soviet Union will supply 500 sophisticated looms over a 2-year period, and India will supply 250 million meters of textiles in 1986 and 500 million in 1990.

In the automotive sector, Soviet trucks will be fitted with Indian diesel engines. A contract has been signed for delivery of 500 Indian buses, to be delivered at the rate of 10 a year.

The Soviets have shown interest in bying India's high-technology products. They include satellite earth stations, dish antennas, computer [words indistinct] and black video tape. In a package deal, the Soviets have also agreed to buy 2 million electron guns for color TV sets from India and sell half a million color television sets from this year.

India and the Soviet Union have recently signed a protocol envisaging further cooperation in nonferrous metallgurgical sector. The two countries have also signed a contract for construction of 2.3 million-ton bauxite plant in Andhra Pradesh.

Official Discusses Nuclear Power Capability

BK050935 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] India will be capable of generating 10,000 megawatts of nuclear power by 2000 AD. This was stated by Dr C.V. Sundaram, director of the Indira Gandhi Center for Atomic Research, Kalpakkam. Talking to newsmen in Varanasi, he said the successful commissioning and operation of the fast breeder test reactor at Kalpakkam has established that carbide fuel has superior breeding capability with the higher power growth rate than the conventionally used oxide fuel. He said at present the Kalpakkam reactor is using indigenous mixed carbide fuel developed by the Bhabha Atomic Research Center the first fast test reactor.

Petroleum Products Prices Reduced by Public Demand

BK051620 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Excerpts] The government has announced a decrease in the prices of some petroleum products from midnight tonight. An official announcement in New Delhi this evening said that broad considerations for increasing the prices of petroleum products continue to be valid. But it has been decided in true democratic spirit to substantially moderate the increases for giving relief to the people.

Although there will be a sizable revenue loss, government is determined to maintain the plan outlays, especially on anti-poverty programs. An official spokesman said the prime minister has given a directive that these outlays should not be curtailed on any account.

The finance minister, Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh, said in a statement that government had very carefully studied the public reaction to the increases in petroleum prices. He said the Congress-I had been in the forefront in articulating popular sentiments. In a democratic system, the government ensures that it is never out of line with the real interests of the broadest masses, particularly the weaker sections of society.

It had become necessary to raise the prices because the government wanted to implement an annual plan which would strengthen the growth impulses of the economy. This involved enhancing the annual plan outlay well above the projected level.

The government also wanted to curb the growth rate in oil consumption. In 1985-86 alone the foreign exchange expenditure had increased by 12 billion rupees. The oil import bill now stands at 47 billion rupees. Even after the price reduction the subsidy on kerosene will continue to be 71 paise per liter and on cooking gas 13 rupees and 5 paise per cylinder.

This morning the Congress working committee met in an emergency session and requested the prime minister to reconsider the price increases for giving release to the common man. This was followed by a cabinet meeting.

Israeli Interception of Libyan Plane Condemned

BK061622 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Pakistan has condemned Israel's interception of a Libyan passenger plane and described it as a serious violation of norms of civil aviation and yet another example of Israel's terrorism. A Foreign Office spokesman said in Islamabad today that the act may have serious repercussions on international air travel and global peace and security.

The Pakistan Government has urged the UN Security Council to condemn Israel for its repeated and flagrant violation of the accepted norms of international law and take appropriate measures to restrain it from its aggressive acts which may lead to serious confrontation and further erode the prospects of peace in the Middle East.

Noorani on 'Desecration' of Mosque in Jerusalem

BK051630 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani stated in the Senate this afternoon that a wave of grief and indignation had swept the Pakistani Government and people due to the recent Zionist attempt to transform the Al-Aqsa Mosque into a place of worship for Jews and the mosque's repeated desecration.

Addressing two identical adjournment motions presented by Maulana Samiul Haq, the minister of state said that Pakistan wholeheartedly supports all efforts and steps to liberate Jerusalem and maintain the Islamic character of the Al-Aqsa mosque.

Referring to the statements of Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo and Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, he said that Pakistan will not rest until Jerusalem is freed and the Al-Aqsa Mosque returned to the Muslims. He said that Muslims have been the permanent trustee of the Al-Aqsa Mosque for the last 14 centuries.

He also mentioned Pakistan's participation in the Al-Quds committee in Morocco and added that it is a matter of satisfaction that the meeting took note of the recent incidents and recommended concrete measures to counter the nefarious designs of the Zionists. He assured the house that Pakistan will implement the Al-Quds committee's recommendations with utmost sincerity. The mover did not press for his motion after the minister of state's statement.

UAE President Arrives for Private Visit

BK061528 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] The president of the United Arab Emirates, Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, arrived in Karachi this afternoon on a private visit.

Reportage on Visit of Indian Delegations

Subcommission Meetings Begin

BK041044 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] The two subcommissions of the Pakistan-India joint commission began their meetings in Islamabad this morning. The two subcommissions deal with cooperation between the two countries in the fields of culture, education, sports, travel and tourism. The proposals formulated by the two subcommissions will be presented to the third meeting of the joint commission to be held in Islamabad in March or April this year.

Agriculture Group Calls on Junejo

BK050514 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Indian Secretary for Agricultural Research and Education N.S. Randhwa and his delegation called on Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo in Rawalpindi yesterday evening and apprised the prime minister of his talks with the Pakistani officials on cooperation in agricultural research.

Pakistan and India have identified areas for cooperation in agricultural research. This was disclosed after the final round of talks between the Indian and Pakistani agricultural delegations in Islamabad yesterday. The Pakistani side was led by the secretary of the Division of Agricultural Research and chairman of the Council of Agricultural Research. The meeting specially considered cooperation in exchanges of scientists and [words indistinct] information. An annual cooperative project, based on the recommendations of the meeting, will be implemented after approval by the governments of the two countries. The leader of the Indian delegation lauded the Pakistani scientists for achieving significant success in the field of agriculture.

The Indian delegation also met federal Minister for Food and Agriculture Qazi Abdul Majid Abid. The federal minister told the members of the delegation that there are extensive prospects for cooperation in various areas of agriculture between the two countries. He said that because Pakistan and India are in the same region, they face similar problems and can help each other by sharing technical expertise and experience.

Exchange Schedule Set Up

BK041619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] India and Pakistan today agreed on a tentative time schedule for exchange of experts in the fields of archeology, archives, anthropology, and library as part of the cultural cooperation agreement. The two Indo-Pakistan subcommissions dealing with tourism, counsular matters, and information and culture held their meetings in Islamabad this morning after an inaugural speech by the Pakistan foreign secretary, Mr Niaz A. Naik.

The two panels of the Indo-Pakistan joint commission discussed, among other things, reopening of the Khokrapar-Minabad route.

steps to ease travel and increase contacts between the two countries. Repatriation of civilian detainees who have completed their prison terms also came up for consideration.

Further Details

BK051615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Two India-Pakistan subcommissions today concluded their deliberations in Islamabad with an agreement to give a new substance to cultural exchanges. A decision on the question of further easing travel facilities between the two countries has, however, been deferred. The Pakistani side agreed to repatriate 47 civilian detainees on the 20th of this month who have completed their prison term.

The subcommission dealing with culture, education, and information has worked out an agreement on a time schedule for exchange of experts in the field of archeology, library, and museum as part of cultural cooperation agreement. There has also been an agreement on the exchange of radio and television programs and matters relating to folk art.

NDP Leader Details U.S. Interference in Region

GF070526 Lahore JANG in Urdu 3 Feb 86 p 1

[Excerpts] Lahore (staff reporter) — Khan Abdul Wali Khan, the leader of the National Democratic Party, has stated that the greatest obstacle to the rule of the people and a national republic is American imperialism and its lackeys. He was speaking yesterday on the subject: "Why Pakistan Could Not Become a National Republic". This meeting was addressed by Nasir A. Sheikh and Abdul Malik.

During the days when Pakistan came into being, changes were being introduced in the foreign policy of the United States. The United States was then making plans to contain the Soviet Union. It is clearly stated in a document of the U.S. National Security Council, now in its possession, that if there were to be a war between the United States and the Soviet Union, the United States would launch an attack from Pakistan. If the Soviet Union were to retaliate, they would attack Pakistan and would use their weapons on Pakistan. If the United States and Europe encountered any difficulty in the delivery of oil from the Middle East, the matter could be controlled through Pakistan.

Khan Abdul Wali Khan stated that President Ziaul Haq had once told him that Pakistan was a fort of Islam. He replied that if this fort was used against the Muslims of the Middle East, would it then be called the fort of blasphemy? If the ideology comes from the north, guns are used against it; but if the same ideology comes from PRC, dances are arranged.

Khan Abdul Wali Khan stated that the United States wanted no political party in Pakistan to come to power that would not protect the interests of the United States. It is on this account that the Americans think that the Pakistani Army has been their friend. It is our misfortune that Pakistan has been made a dependent of the United States. In the past it was said that the United States would come to the aid of Pakistan if it were invaded by any communist power. However, the American document states that Pakistan would be the only country that, despite American agreements, would not be supported by the United Sattes even if attacked from a communist country.

In the beginning Pakistan received an invitation from the Soviet Union inviting the Pakistani prime minister to visit Moscow. This invitation was used by Pakistan to force an invitation from the United States. The American document clearly states that Choudhury Zafrollah was a British agent and that Malik Ghulam Muhammad, Sikandar Mirza, and Ayub Khan were American agents. The American ambassador in Pakistan wrote to Washington that a Pakistani Cabinet minister was ready to work for CIA.

Khan Abdul Wali Khan added that no elections were held those days because the Indian politicians who opted for Pakistan and came to Pakistan to rule had no electoral constituencies in Pakistan. They called themselves emigrants even when they were in Pakistan. They did not become Sindis, Pathans, or Baluchis. When the PRC and the United States became friends through the brokerage of Pakistan, the United States did not need East Pakistan to use against the PRC. The political awareness of the East Pakistanis also became a problem for the Americans. Kahn Abdul Wali Khan said: A responsible personality of Pakistan told me that it was necessary to give up East Pakistan to save West Pakistan.

Khan Abdul Wali Khan added that, after the Afghan revolution, when Tarkai talked about socialism, the United States and the fundamentalists in Pakistan raised a hue and cry that this violated the ideological boundaries and decided to use Islam as a weapon. The British Government during its era also prepared a list of the mullahs in the NWFP.

NAWA-E WAQT on India's Tactical Nuclear Capability

GF061844 Lahore NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 3 Feb 86 p 1

[By Nazir Naji]

[Excerpts] Lahore — India has acquired the capability to manufacture tactical nuclear weapons. The nuclear shells, which can destroy everything within a perimeter of 2 km, are already deployed by NATO and the Warsaw Pact. The PRC also has equipped its army with these weapons. These tactical nuclear arms can be fired from ordinary mortars.

A Western technical research paper has written that Indian scientists began efforts to manufacture these shells from plutonium soon after their 1974 nuclear explosion. The idea was to manufacture such shells which could cause destruction in a limited area. They started tests at the Kasipur gun and armaments factory. The substance used in these shells is called a toxic agent. The toxic effects of these nuclear shells remains effective only for a short period and only within a limited area. This substance is being kept secret. India at present is capable of equipping one batallion of its artillery with these shells. India also has manufactured a hydrogen bomb and it can test it at any time.

Former President Moraji Desai had stopped action on the Indian nuclear program but Mrs Gandhi ordered the program to be resumed when she came to power in 1980. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi is also devoting his full attention to this program.

In this nuclear program India not only wants to establish its hegemony in Southwest Asia, but also to convey a warning to the PRC. India believes that the PRC is helping Pakistan in the latter's nuclear program. Pakistan and the PRC have both denied this but India adheres to its suspicion.

Between 30 or 40 Indian scientists are busy in the Bhabha Atomic Research Center working on the hydrogen bomb. This project is working on a scientific technique which is called the ICF, or international confinement fusion.

The United States has remained silent on India's fast progress in the nuclear field, while keeping a very strict watchful eye on Pakistan's peaceful nuclear program. President Reagan in a letter to President Zia warned him: "If Pakistan continues to work on its nuclear program, then the United States will stop its military and economic aid to Pakistan."

President Reagan said that Pakistan should use its Kahuta nuclear plant for processing uranium. This uranium will serve as fuel for the reactor but it cannot be used in manufacturing arms.

In reply, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, in a meeting with President Reagan, assured him that Pakistan was ready to work on U.S. suggestions with regard to the Kahuta plant.

Further Reportage on 10 Days of Dawn Ceremonies

Khomeyni's Son Reads Imam's Message

LD061742 Tehran IRNA in English 1730 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb 6, IRNA — In a message read by his son at the Behesht-e Zahra cemetery here Thursday, [6 February] Imam Khomeyni hailed the Iranian nation for cutting off the hands of the aggressors from the Islamic homeland and for reviving Iran's lost dignity and independence.

The spiritual leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran also prayed to the Almighty for his divine dispensations which, he said, has enabled the devoted Iranian nation to establish a state of Islamic justice and equity in place of the former oppressive rule.

The message which was issued on the "Day of Martyrs and the Islamic Revolution", (i.e., the sixth day of the Ten Day Dawn period marking the seventh anniversary of the revolution's victory), also praised the great martyrs of the revolution, as well as the disabled, those missing in action and the prisoners of war, all of whom, the imam said, by their commitment and self-sacrifice have exalted the nation before the Almighty. A large group of families of the martyrs, the disabled, the MIAS, and the POW's, as well as civil and military officials, and foreign guests were present at the ceremonies.

"After the passage of several years since the victory of the revolution," the imam said, "and despite all-out plots and pressures by the big and small oppressors... Islam is spreading throughout the world thanks to the great spiritual strength of the nation and owing to the pure blood of the martyrs in the cause of Islam."

The imam thanked God that the analyses of the dependents of the East and the West about the Islamic revolution had turned out to be wrong and that the Islamic Republic, with its great power inspired by divine blessing, is still treading the straight path of Islam. He also thanked the Almighty for granting the honor to the Iranian nation to become a model for the oppressed peoples in the world.

Imam Khomeyni also prayed to the Almighty for the ultimate victory of Iran's Islamic combatants in the Iraqi imposed war, and to help the "marchers of Karbala' " (people's volunteers to the war fronts) achieve their sublime goal, and also to cut off the hands of the oppressors from the Islamic countries...

The superintendent of the Martyrs Foundation, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mahdi Karrubi, also spoke to the crowd and said Iran was the only country in the world where Islam in the real sense of the word has been institutionalized. He said the victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran proved that religion can form the basis of a system of government and the sovereign policy in a society.

During the ceremony, several army helicopters showered flowers over the graves of the martyrs of the Islamic revolution and the Iraqi imposed war. In another ceremony the memorial gravestones of the late Egyptian combatants, Khalid Islambuli and Sulayman Khatir, were uncovered at the Behesht-e Zahra cemetery.

President Attends Mosque Ceremony

GF070627 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] According to the Central News Unit correspondent on the 6th day of the 10 Days of Dawn, which has been named the day of the Islamic revolution and martyrdom, last night impressive ceremonies were arranged by the militant clergy society of Tehran in the Martyr Mottahari School. President Khamene'i, foreign guests attending the 10 Days of Dawn celebrations, the clergy, several Majlis deputies, and various Tehran citizens attended the ceremony.

To begin, Mr Mahallati, the imam's representative in the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps spoke of the manner in which the Islamic revolution achieved victory under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni and of the role of the Tehran militant clergy on the path to victory. He commented on the special role of the martyrs of the council of the Tehran militant clergy and remembered and praised martyrs Mottahari, Beheshti, Bahonar, Moffateh and Shahabadi.

Then Mr Khamene'i, the president, gave a speech congratulating the audience on the upcoming anniversary of the glorious Islamic revolution. He said: We are now passing through some of the most sensitive days in the history of our revolution; and the most glorious memories, the most beautiful sacrifices, and the most amazing tales of steadfastness come to our minds.

Mr Khamene'i continued his speech by discussing the laws of change in history mentioned in the Koran and compared the Islamic revolution to these laws. He said: One of the principles of the Koran is the discussion on the changing laws of history, which mentions changes in history and changes in human history and human evolution, as the Koran sees them. According to these laws, no social changes will be made in society unless society changes from within its own specifications and peculiarities. This is the law and throughout history one of the reasons the people on this planet have had misfortunes and have accepted them and the reason they did not have hope for victory was their misunderstanding of what needed to be done. We have experienced this in our own lives.

The Tehran Friday prayer leader then talked about the various Koranic verses on victory. He said: Different elements brought our revolution first to victory, then stability. The most important of these elements was the respect for piety. The reason we are more well known in the world today, the reason more people want to imitate us, the reason why we have dug our roots deeper and are less dependent on individuals is because we have strict adherence to piety. The leader of the revolution and the people came to the battlefields with complete piety and were victorious.

Mr Khamene'i continued to compare Koranic verses with the victory of the Islamic revolution and its continuation. He said: We must recognize the various plots of the East and West and we must stand firm against the East and West. We must not bend down to any pressure by any power.

The head of the Defense Council then spoke of the imposed war. He said: We did not have fantasies about oil. We stood firm by

our principles and the Koran has told us that peace is not a final and a definite value; it only has value when it is just. Would it be right for us to tell the fighters of South Africa or the Palestinian people to make peace? Peace only has value when it is just. With the help of God, while the aggressors do not accept what we have to say and while the aggressive regime of Iraq is not punished, we will in no way make peace and we shall not bow down to pressure.

Amal Official's Statement

GF070354 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The 10 days of dawn guests arrived in Bandar-e 'Abbas, center of the Hormozgan Province in southern Iran before noon today to become closely acquainted with economic and social activities and with the political and strategic position of the province. They were received at the airport by a number of clergymen and a group of officials of the province.

Our correspondent reported that following their arrival, the guests of the 10 Days of Dawn headed for Bandar-e 'Abbas to inspect the ports of Martyr Raja'i and Martyr Bahonar.

During an interview with our correspondent on his fruitful visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran, Brother Abu Hisham, a Muslim Lebanese Amal movement official, referred to the future of Muslims in Lebanon. He said: The goals of Muslims are identical and our leader — the Muslims leader — is Imam Khomeyni. He affirmed that the battles in Lebanon would end with the victory of the Muslims.

Referring to Palestine and its oppressed people, Abu Hisham stated that oppressed Palestine has set its hope on the Islamic Republic and the Islamic revolution of Iran. He added: We believe that the forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran are the forces of the liberation of Jerusalem.

Lebanese Clerics Meet Rafsanjani

GF070614 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] According to the public relations' office of the Majlis, Mr Shaykh Shams al-Din and Mr Sayid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, two of Lebanon's ulema who are in Tehran to attend ceremonies for the 10 Days of Dawn and the seventh anniversary of the success of the Islamic reovlution, yesterday afternoon met with Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the Majlis speaker. During the meeting they talked about issues in Lebanon and regional matters.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Receives Al-Qadhdhafi Envoy

LD061824 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani today received the special envoy of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the Libyan leader, who delivered a message from Col al-Qadhdhafi praising Iran's stance in the face of the U.S. plots hatched against Libya.

In response, Hashemi-Rafsanjani expressed thanks for Libya's support for the Islamic Revolution in Iran. He said: The time has come for emphasis to be placed on oil from the Middle East and the Persian Gulf, and on plots against Libya. We must arrange further cooperation so as to neutralize such plots. As in the past, we emphasize again that we stand side-by-side with the people of Libya against any plots.

Continuing his speech, Hashemi-Rafsanjani stated: The United States and Israel have made a big mistake in this air piracy. They have exposed their deceitful policies and virtually proved that they are willing to train terrorists in this region. They intend to turn the region into an ever-present crisis center by a breakdown of security.

Deputy Foreign Minister, Libyan Envoy Condemn Israel

LD061505 Tehran IRNA in English 1440 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb 6, IRNA — Libya's charge d'affaires 'Abdallah Fadhil met and conferred here Wednesday with Deputy Foreign Minister for Political affairs Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam. In the meeting, Sheykh ol-Eslam condemned the Zionist state of Israel for its air piracy against a Libyan passenger plane saying that the Islamic Republic of Iran categorically backs and cooperates with Libya in struggling against such agressions.

Daily Warns of Retaliation

LD061451 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1200 GMT 6 Feb 86

[From the press review]

[Text] This week the world saw a new terrorist hijacking act by the United States. A passenger airliner was hijacked by fighter planes of the occupying regime and forced to land in occupied Palestine, thanks to facilities provided by the U.S. fleet in the Mediterranean.

The daily *JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI* writes in its political analysis: Last month, U.S. mass media reported a plan for the CIA, using every possibie means, to try to abduct officials of countries which are opposed to U.S. policies. The abducted individuals would be taken to countries friendly to Washington or even to the United States itself for interrogation and trial. Now, an example of this terrorist plot has been put into practice: A Libyan passenger airliner was hijacked by fighter planes of the occupying regime and forced to land in occupied Palestine, thanks to facilities provided by the U.S. fleet in the Mediterranean.

The arrogant mass media are trying hard to cooperate as far as possible to prevent the exposure of behind-the-scene secrets, but the role played by the United States and its naval fleet in the Mediterranean was so transparent that, surprisingly, the incident turned against Washington's interests. No doubt, the United States is interested in making use of the abject policies pursued by Arab reaction and, if possible, it intends to extend this reaction

all over the region to engulf the progressive countries of the region and to keep them in a state of nervous tension. But, would the adoption of such methods release U.S. diplomacy in the Middle East from its present deadlock?

There is much evidence to prove that events are clearly moving against Washington's interests; and the United States, in search of fresh pastures, has in fact taken the lead in delivering blows in its own interest. By threatening passenger airliners and endangering international flights, the United States will certainly harm both itself and its allies. In a single incident and by trampling over international law, the United States might find itself a temporary winner, but how can one predict the consequences of such incidents? Has Washington considered the undesirable consequences of its adventures? Will it accept responsibility for the tragic outcome of its blatant involvement in undermining the security of international flights?

The United States is tempted by its naval fleet to trample on international regulations and to hijack passenger planes. But the adoption of such methods as official U.S. policy will from now on justify in advance any retaliatory measures. In this connection, Washington has chosen state terrorism as the pivot of its foreign policy. But, under the circumstances, the United States is more vulnerable than any other regime and the adoption of such a policy does it more harm than good.

The truth is that, thanks to its stupid policies, Washington has made itself countless enemies in every corner of the world; it imagines that by resorting to state terrorism as the center of its foreign policy, it will be able to achieve its goals. But there is no doubt that such a policy will, instead of serving U.S. interests, seriously threaten its interests in four corners of the world and invites retaliation. The difference is that this time it was the United States which fired the first shot and Washington is responsible for the progress of a vicious circle created by itself. Because, if they mean to try certain individuals, who are marked as agents of terrorism, then U.S. officials in the four corners of the world are top of the list of condemned terrorists.

UK Minister Confirms Right To Search Ships

LD061441 Tehran IRNA in English 1432 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] London, Feb. 6, IRNA — A British Foreign Office minister has confirmed that Iran could justify its search operations in the Persian Gulf against ships suspected of carrying arms for Iraq, including the British-owned *Barber Perseus* on Jan. 12.

Answering questions from three parliament member Wednesday, Mr. Tim Renton, the minister of state for Foreign and Commonwealth Office, also suggested that for Britain's own interests the right of search on the high seas should be preserved.

"Iran may be entitled under Article 51 of the United Nations Charter to exercise an inherent right of self-defence by stopping and searching foreign merchant ships on the high seas... the Iranians are using that specific right," he said. However, he described this right as "exceptional", which could be used "only if there are reasonable grounds" for countries engaged in war.

Mr Renton also confirmed that it would be against Britain's interests to abolish the right of search in international waters. It was this right for all countries to carry out search operations on the high seas if necessary that led the United States to reluctantly accept that the Islamic Republic was justified in searching the American flag ship, *President Taylor*, in the Persian Gulf last month.

American Navy and Coast Guard do regularly search suspect ships and boats in the Caribbean Sea on the lesser grounds that they may be carrying drugs and other illegal goods to the U.S.

When the Iranian Navy intensified its operations against ships suspected of carrying arms for Iraq three weeks ago, when London's Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe was also touring the southern Persian Gulf states, the British press gave prominence to the development but gave the impression that Iran was acting against international law. However when the American and British officials explicitly acknowledged the right of search, the media here remained silent. The British Media have also not published any reports on their Foreign Office minister's comments in Wednesday's parliamentary session.

Musavi Inaugurates Petrochemical Complex Expansion

LD061105 Tehran IRNA in English 1033 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Shiraz, Fars Prov., Feb. 6, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi here Thursday morning inaugurated the project for the expansion of Shiraz petrochemical complex. The oil minister, Gholam Reza Aqazadeh, who also accompanied the prime minister, told IRNA that the new project will increase production of the chemical fertilizer of the complex by 450-500 thousand tons a year.

He added that full operation of the chemical fertilizer producing line of the complex, to start next year, will raise its output to 850,000 tons a year, meeting the whole demand of the country. Becoming operational, the new line of the complex will save 120 million dollars of foreign exchange a year.

Oil Minister Returns From Tripartite Oil Talks

LD061803 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Golam Reza Aqazadeh, the Islamic Republic's oil minister, returned to Tehran this afternoon following a tripartite meeting of the oil ministries from Iran, Algeria, and Libya held in Tripoli.

According to the Central News Unit's correspondent, at the end of their meetings from 3-5 February, the three oil ministers issued a statement expressing their concern at the recent instability of the oil market and emphasizing the importance of unity within OPEC. They further warned that the recent political pressures from various countries aim to weaken OPEC and they also noted that the falling oil prices will have negative effects on the economies of all oil-producing countries. The oil ministers from Iran, Libya, and Algeria also stressed the need for further

consultations and more cooperation between the oil-producing countries.

Hajj Delegation Returns from Saudi Arabia

GF060807 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Emam-Jamarani, the imam's representative in the Hajj, Endowments, and Charity Organization, who had led a delegation to Saudi Arabia to coordinate facilities for 150,000 Iranian pilgrims to the holy sites in 1986, returned to Tehran last night. Mr Emam-Jamarani spoke to our correspondent about the results of his trip to Saudi Arabia. We invite you to listen to this interview.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr Jamarani, I would like you to talk about the result of your meetings with Saudi officials.

[Emam-Jamarani] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. We talked about issues concerning the hajj and the facilities that have to be provided for the pilgrims. To do this, it is necessary to coordinate between Iranian hajj officials and their Saudi counterparts in order to provide the necessary facilities for the respected pilgrims during the hajj period. For this reason, every year a delegation travels to Saudi Arabia in advance to hold talks. A few days ago, we went to Saudi Arabia and held talks with officials on providing the necessary facilities for pilgrims.

We met with Saudi Arabia's minister of hajj and endowments about organizing housing and other issues in this field. We met with the Saudi PTT minister about providing communication facilities for the pilgrims so that there would be a communications network between Saudi Arabia and Iran during the hajj period. We met with the Saudi health minister about providing the necessary comforts for the pilgrims during the hajj period. It was necessary to have such talks with these officials and thank God we had some successes in all of these fields.

Last year and in previous years, as regards provision of facilities, there was some harrasment. However, this year, with the agreement that has been signed and with the help of God, we hope things will improve. We also had talks on housing and there were some agreements. If God is willing, we shall have more housing facilities this year than before.

Other talks were held with the Health Ministry. They agreed to some principles and followed a positive approach to the issue. They stated that when it came to the comfort of the pilgrims, they had been given orders to help. They added that they would do their best to provide this help. The same went for the PTT Ministry.

In connection with the political side of hajj, we have experienced harassment every year but this year. We think that because of the agreements we have, if God is willing, we hope not to witness any incidents concerning political issues this year. We hope that our political activities will be carried out well this year.

What we discussed with them first was the number of pilgrims. We wanted to be able to send up to 200,000 pilgrims to Mecca this year, but the Saudi Government is unable to accomodate that many people. They have asked for 2 or 3 years to do repairs and to provide facilities so that they can be ready to accept more Iranian pilgrims. So this year it was decided that again we would send 150,000 people.

Another issue concerning Iranian pilgrimages was the question of some anti-Shi'ite publications and propaganda which has been seen every year in the holy sites during the hajj period. These publications were distributed and caused some concern among the Iranian pilgrims. We asked that this sort of thing not be repeated again and as they have had some bad experiences in this regard, we asked them not to carry out such activities in order not to cause rifts between Shi'ites and Sunnis.

Another point that has been bothering our pilgrims in Mecca and Medina is the issue of the graves of imams and those close to the prophet — peace be unto him — which has been an ungoing thing for years. With the help of God the graves of the imams and the great men of Islam will be rebuilt in the best way possible so that they would not be in the ruined state that they are in now. This was a serious topic of conversation with Saudi officials. Following talks between our foreign minister and the Saudi foreign minister and other officials, we wanted this issue looked into. In the agreement that was signed, this question was brought up and they have promised to do some quick repair work and rebuilding of these graves. It was decided that a plan be put forward by Iran so that the operations can be carried out according to those plans. If God is willing, the ruined state of the graves would be dealt with so that the long-time wishes of the Shi'ites can be realized. It seems that we have been successful in this regard as well. We hope to provide an all-encompassing plan so that this can be realized.

We had successes in other areas as well. The issue of (Joghfeh) was one of our concerns, because years ago there was a destroyed mosque there without any facilities. For the past 2 or 3 years the Iranians wanted Joghfeh to be rebuilt, as it was a site regarded holy by the Iranians and the Shi'ites, so it could be taken out of that state. This was something we had wanted for the past 2 or 3 years. Thank God, this year they did a good thing and started to build a glorious mosque there. It is now finished and there are also many facilities for the comfort of the pilgrims. There is also a paved road all the way up to the entrance of the mosque which was not there before. It did not even have a proper road before; most of the pilgrims used to be confused and some even got lost there. This year, thank God, it has been built in the best way possible, which will be satisfactory to the Iranians this year. So we have no more concerns with regard to Joghfeh. [end recording]

Executions of Iranian Spies in Iraq

LD062017 Tehran IRNA in English 1823 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] London, Feb. 6, IRNA — Iraq's chief of security, 'Ali Hassan al-Majid, has said that 11 Iraqis, including eight army deserters, and four Iranians have been executed for allegedly conspiring to spy for the Islamic Republic and carry out bomb attacks. He did not say when or how the executions took place.

Islamic groups in London, which saw the claim in one of the newspapers here Thursday strongly condemned it. One group, the Islamic Council, called the report "horrifying." A spokesman for the council told IRNA, "they (Iraqi officials) are repeating the same things and are not responding to the world community's concern over the human rights situation there."

Sources within two Iraqi Islamic associations in London noted that the Baghdad regime's oppressive policy against the increasing number of Islamic activists is "nothing new." They said there had been reports about a clash between Iraqi mujahidin and the police earlier this week but that it was not clear whether the Iraqi allegations were linked to it. The Iraqi officials had in the past used the state-controlled press in such a way to intimidate the mujahidin or to blame foreign governments for the growing Islamic resistance inside the country, they said.

Tehran Radio Details Iraqi Kurds Operation

GF042012 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] In a recent ambush by the Kurdish Muslim revolutionaries, five of the forces of the Saddamist regime were killed in northern Iraq; among them were three Ba'thist Party security men. Another six were wounded.

A report by the central news office quoting *TARIQ KARBALA'* newspaper stated that 28 elements of the so-called popular army have surrendered to the Kurdish Muslim revolutionaries during this ambush. The report added that the Kurdish Muslim revolutionaries returned safely to their bases after successfully carrying out this operation.

Iraq Expelled From 'Majority' of Republic's Area

LD051759 Tehran IRNA in English 1639 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 5, IRNA — Ground Force Commander Colonel 'Ali Seyyed Shirazi Wednesday said that the Iraqi regime occupied over 10711 square kilometers of Islamic Republic Territory at the outbreak of the war.

Speaking at an army epaulette-giving ceremony here, Colonel Shirazi said that the Islamic combatants have so far been successful in expelling the Ba'thist invaders from the majority of the Islamic homeland. Shirazi said that the magnitude of the sacrifices of the Iranian combatants in the fronts can never be fully recorded by historiographers. Iraqi invaders still occupy some parts of Iranian territory.

UN Experts Visit Bombed Ruins in Marivan

LD060726 Tehran IRNA in English 0720 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Marivan, Kordestan Prov., Feb. 6, IRNA — The United Nations team of experts stationed in Tehran, Wednesday visited the devastation in Marivan, Kurdestan Province, caused by repeated Iraqi bombardments last week. The team, after visiting the ruins, announced that there was no doubt that Iraq had attacked residential areas in Marivan.

In the Iraqi bombardments of the city, carried out in violation of June 12th 1984 agreement, several civilians were martyred and a number of houses in the center of the city were destroyed.